ADDITIONS TO THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM, MISSOURI AND NEW MEXICO

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC LANDS AND RESERVED WATER

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

S. 1964

A BILL TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS IN THE MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST, MISSOURI, WHICH COMPRISE ABOUT SEVENTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO ACRES, AND KNOWN AS THE IRISH WILDERNESS, AS A COMPONENT OF THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

S. 1965

A BILL TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS IN THE MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST IN MISSOURI, WHICH COMPRISE APPROXIMATELY SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT ACRES, AND WHICH ARE GENERALLY DEPICTED ON A MAP ENTITLED "PADDY CREEK WILDERNESS AREA," AS A COMPONENT OF THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

S. 2021

A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISPOSAL OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LANDS IN NEW MEXICO AND FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN OTHER LANDS IN BERNALILLO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, TO BE PURCHASED WITH THE PROCEEDS FROM THE DISPOSAL OF SUCH FEDERAL LANDS

S. 2405

A BILL TO FURTHER AMEND THE BOUNDARY OF THE CIBOLA NATIONAL FOREST TO ALLOW AN EXCHANGE OF LANDS WITH THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

MAY 27, 1982

Publication No. 97-108

Printed for the use of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
13-930 O WASHINGTON : 1983

5311-11

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

JAMES A. McCLURE, Idaho, *Chairman*

MARK O. HATFIELD, Oregon
LOWELL P. WEICKER, Jr., Connecticut
PETE V. DOMENICI, New Mexico
MALCOLM WALLOP, Wyoming
JOHN W. WARNER, Virginia
GORDON J. HUMPHREY, New Hampshire
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, Alaska
DON NICKLES, Oklahoma
JOHN P. EAST, North Carolina
JOHN HEINZ, Pennsylvania

HENRY M. JACKSON, Washington
J. BENNETT JOHNSTON, Louisiana
DALE BUMPERS, Arkansas
WENDELL H. FORD, Kentucky
HOWARD M. METZENBAUM, Ohio
SPARK M. MATSUNAGA, Hawaii
JOHN MELCHER, Montana
PAUL E. TSONGAS, Massachusetts
BILL BRADLEY, New Jersey

MICHAEL D. HATHAWAY, *Staff Director*
CHARLES A. TRABANDT, *Chief Counsel*
D. MICHAEL HARVEY, *Chief Counsel for the Minority*

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND RESERVED WATER

MALCOLM WALLOP, Wyoming, *Chairman*

MARK O. HATFIELD, Oregon
JOHN W. WARNER, Virginia
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, Alaska
PETE V. DOMENICI, New Mexico

DALE BUMPERS, Arkansas
HOWARD M. METZENBAUM, Ohio
SPARK M. MATSUNAGA, Hawaii
JOHN MELCHER, Montana

JAMES A. McCLURE and HENRY M. JACKSON are Ex Officio Members of the Subcommittee

TONY BEVINETTO, *Professional Staff Member*

CONTENTS

Page

S. 1964 5
S. 1965 8
S. 2021 11
S. 2405 14

STATEMENTS

Bormann, Tom, chairman, Wilderness Committee, Ozark Chapter, Sierra Club, St. Louis, Mo 117
Callison, Charles H., director, Public Lands Institute, Denver, Colo 107
Chrisinger, Dan, geologist, Port Townsend, Wash 122
Danforth, Hon. John C., a U.S. Senator from the State of Missouri 37
Domenici, Hon. Pete V., a U.S. Senator from the State of New Mexico 1
Eagleton, Hon. Thomas F., a U.S. Senator from the State of Missouri 35
Elliott, Wilson, resident of Paddy Creek area, Roby, Mo 111
Faulkenberry, Paul, former mayor, Eminence, Mo 43
Franks, Hon. Hardin, presiding judge, Oregon County Court 38
Housley, Raymond M., Deputy Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture 21
Iffrig, Greg, Irish Wilderness Protective Association, Jefferson City, Mo 98
Karel, John, Missouri Wilderness Coalition, Columbia, Mo 59
Kinney, Harry E., mayor, city of Albuquerque, N. Mex 16
Marbaker, William E. II, executive secretary, Mining Industry Council of Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo 45
Myers, Harold E., assistant chief geologist, St. Joe Lead Co., Viburnum Mo 51
Roche, Joe, vice president, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Baldwin, Md 33
Rucker, Booker H., director, Missouri Historic Preservation Program, Jefferson City, Mo 112
Sears, Virginia, director, Washington Office of the Governor of New Mexico 18
Sorenson, Jay, chairman, Albuquerque Open Space Task Force 19
Strong, Bob, president, Missouri Chapter of the Ozark Society, Cape Girardeau, Mo 132

APPENDIX

Additional material submitted for the record 141

ADDITIONS TO THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM, MISSOURI AND NEW MEXICO

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1982

U.S. Senate,
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,
Subcommittee on Public Lands and Reserved Water,
Washington, D. C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in room 3110, Dirksen Office Building, Hon. Pete V. Domenici, presiding.

Present: Senators, Domenici, and Wallop.

Also present: Tony Bevinetto, professional staff member; and Thomas B. Williams, professional staff member for the minority.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. PETE V. DOMENICI, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Senator Domenici. The subcommittee will come to order. The Public Lands and Reserved Water Subcommittee will hear testimony today on four bills. They are as follows; Senate bill 1964, to designate certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri which comprises about 17,562 acres known as the Irish Wilderness as a component of the National Wilderness System. Senate bill 1965, to designate certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri which comprises approximately 6,888 acres which is entitled the Patty Creek Wilderness area. It is a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

And, two bills that pertain to the State of New Mexico, more particularly, the city of Albuquerque, Senate bill 2021, to provide for the disposal of certain Federal lands in New Mexico, and for the acquisiton of certain other lands to be purchased with proceeds from the disposal of such Federal lands; and 2405, to further amend the boundary of the Cibola National Forest to allow an exchange of lands with the city of Albuquerque, State of New Mexico.

First, I want to thank Senator Wallop for permitting me to Chair the subcommittee. He will be here, I understand, in about 45 minutes, at which time he will take over. He has authorized me to proceed with the New Mexico bills first. Without objection, I will place the bills as introduced in the hearing record. Senator Wallop, as I indicated, has an engagement that prevents him from making the opening, but he has asked me to chair and he will join us shortly.

Two of the bills, as I indicated, 2021 and 2405, are measures which in my State I've had a long interest in. We are here to hear testimony on these two bills at this time. We will proceed with the three witnesses from New Mexico and Albuquerque, the Honorable Harry Kinney, mayor of Albuquerque; Virginia Sears, director, Governor's office, State of New Mexico; Jay Sorenson, chairman of the Albuquerque Open Space task force, Albuquerque, N. Mex. Will the three witnesses take the witness table, and I will take you as a panel.

I have some brief opening remarks, so we'll do that. First I want to welcome you, particularly you, Mayor Kinney. I'm very proud to have you here. I think your leadership has been excellent. Certainly the community has done an outstanding job, and Dr. Jay Sorenson has been the chairman of the open space task force, and I want to commend all of those wonderful people by commending you, Dr. Sorenson, for your efforts.

Again, I thank the chairman of the subcommittee for holding these hearings. This is a matter that is dear to me, but more importantly, many people in the State of New Mexico and the city of Albuquerque think this is a very exciting opportunity for the Federal Government and our city and State, our National Forest System and the National Wilderness System.

Permit me to take a few moments to recap the history and tell you and the record what the two bills before us do.

Senate bill 2405 which I introduced basically amends a previous law which authorized the acquisition of this land and included it into the National Wilderness System.

This bill mandates an exchange of land between the city of Albuquerque and the U.S. Forest Service.

The acquisition has the support of the local community, the city and the State of New Mexico as well as the U. S. Forest Service.

This Congress has twice gone on record by passing legislation which has stated that it is the best interest of this Nation to acquire this parcel of land. We have not heretofore mandated the exchange and provided the exact details as we will in this legislation.

The State of New Mexico and the city of Albuquerque have committed over $5 million for this land acquisition. As a further indication of their willingness to see this parcel become part of the wilderness system, the city of Albuquerque instituted a local sales tax this year to generate the revenue needed to purchase the over 7,000 acres of land from a private party. By this action the city of Albuquerque truly committed themselves to the acquisition of this land.

Once the city receives title to the land they will begin a land exchange program with the Forest Service in which they will receive an equal valued amount of public land for the Elena Gallegos tract.

Before I proceed any further, I would like to compliment the city for having the courage to find a method of acquiring this land that does not put additional strains on our Federal budget. I believe that they have found a method for Federal acquisition of lands that generally was suggested when this Subcommittee on Public Land and Reserved Waters conducted a 2-day workshop last year on alternative methods for Federal land acquisition.

I would hope that all parties involved would be able, with this legislation, to work together to expedite this exchange. Today you will hear from other witnesses who will spell out in detail the local commitment to this acquisition.

I would now address my comments to another bill dealing with this acquisition S.2021. This legislation would allow the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to identify parcels of public land throughout the State of New Mexico which could be sold off to communities or to the private sector. The proceeds from those sales could be used to finish the exchange if adequate parcels cannot be found to equalize the value of the exchange. In a sense it provides the flexibility that might be needed as you proceed down the line with the transaction, Mr. Mayor.

I feel that this would provide us with an inovative tool to insure that the Elena Gallegos acquisition is fully completed.

There is ample precedent for this type of legislation. A similar bill was passed by Congress to help preserve the Lake Tahoe basin and to assist in the preservation of the fragile environmental ecosystem in that basin.

This legislation would allow the U.S. Forest Service to insure that in case problems develop with the land exchange with Albuquerque that a cash equalization substitute could be made to the city in the event the proper parcels of land could not be located to consumate the exchange under S. 2[illegible]5, or if we were one tract short, or a tract was too large, a number of smaller ones could be cashed out. That's what the second bill would envision.

I believe that due to the commitment of Albuquerque and the State of New Mexico, the Federal Government should be ready to step in and contribute some funding if needed to consummate this acquisition. Through this legislation we provide a method that does not directly impact on Government expenditures.

I would further state to those who are deeply concerned about parcels of public land leaving the control of the Federal Government that the parcels we are talking about have been studied closely and are considered parcels that can be disposed of without endangering the best interests of the citizens of this Nation. They are, in other words, classified as excessive.

Furthermore, in several cases the parcels involved will facilitate the growth of cities in New Mexico. In at least two cases that I am aware of the ownership of Federal property on the borders of a community in New Mexico has, in fact, created a situation that has led to the urbanization of valuable prime farmland. If these two parcels are taken out of the public domain, land and ownership acquired by the city or the private sector, developmental pressure on prime agriculture land will lessen. I only point out this matter because in recent weeks there has been some expression on the part of certain individuals concerned over the disposal of Federal property.

In this case, what the Federal Government stands to gain and what purposes these parcels will be put to once they leave the control of the Federal Government, in my opinion, surpasses any benefit the citizens of the United States may stand to gain from maintaining these tracts.

In closing I would sum up this legislation by saying that there is absolute unanimity that the land should be acquired by the Federal Government and that those involved in this issue have found a way for this acquisition to take place.

I would further state that both the city of Albuquerque and the State of New Mexico have committed a fair share of their resources to acquire the land and that it is now time for the Federal Government to fulfill their commitment to this acquisition.

[The texts of S. 1964, S. 1965, S. 2021, and S. 2405 follow:]

II

97TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1964

To designate certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which compromise about seventeen thousand five hundred and sixty-two acres, and known as the Irish Wilderness, as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 15 (legislative day, NOVEMBER 30), 1981

Mr. EAGLETON (for himself and Mr. DANFORTH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

A BILL

To designate certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which compromise about seventeen thousand five hundred and sixty-two acres, and known as the Irish Wilderness, as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be known as the Irish Wilderness Act of 1981.

SEC. 2. In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890) and the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2096), the following area as generally depicted on a map appropriately referenced, dated December 1981, is hereby designated as wilderness and, therefore, as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which comprise about seventeen thousand five hundred and sixty-two acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Irish Wilderness", dated December 1981, and shall be known as the Irish Wilderness.

SEC. 3. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file a map and a legal description of the Irish Wilderness area with the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of the Senate and the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, and such description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal description and map may be made.

SEC. 4. The area designated as wilderness by this Act shall be administered in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890) and the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2096), except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of such Acts shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

II

97TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1965

To designate certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri, which comprise approximately six thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight acres, and which are generally depicted on a map entitled "Paddy Creek Wilderness Area", as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 15 (legislative day, NOVEMBER 30), 1981

Mr. EAGLETON (for himself and Mr. DANFORTH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

A BILL

To designate certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri, which comprise approximately six thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight acres, and which are generally depicted on a map entitled "Paddy Creek Wilderness Area", as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be known as the Paddy Creek Wilderness Act of 1981.

SEC. 2. In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890) and the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2096), the following area as generally depicted on a map appropriately referenced, dated December 1981, is hereby designated as wilderness and, therefore, as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System; certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which comprise about six thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Paddy Creek Wilderness Area", dated December 1981, and shall be known as the Paddy Creek Wilderness Area.

SEC. 3. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file a map and legal description of the Paddy Creek Wilderness Area with the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of the Senate and the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, and such description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal description and map may be made.

SEC. 4. The area designated as wilderness by this Act shall be administered in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890) and the Act of January 3, 1975 (88 Stat. 2096), except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of such Acts shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

II

97TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2021

To provide for the disposal of certain Federal lands in New Mexico and for the acquisition of certain other lands in Bernalillo County, New Mexico, to be purchased with the proceeds from the disposal of such Federal lands.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28 (legislative day, JANUARY 25), 1982

Mr. BAKER (for Mr. DOMENICI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

A BILL

To provide for the disposal of certain Federal lands in New Mexico and for the acquisition of certain other lands in Bernalillo County, New Mexico, to be purchased with the proceeds from the disposal of such Federal lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture are authorized and directed to dispose of lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of New Mexico in accordance with the provisions of this Act. Such disposal shall be in accordance with regulations developed jointly by the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the affected local governmental jurisdictions and shall be consistent with the provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and other applicable law, except to the extent necessary to expeditiously carry out the provisions of this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding, subsection (a), the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the affected local governmental jurisdictions shall jointly select lands to be offered for sale under this Act. In the event agreement can not be reached on a joint selection, no land shall be offered for sale.

(c)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the revenues from the sale of public lands under this section shall, notwithstanding any other provision of law, be deposited annually in the general fund of the Treasury of the United States.

(2) The revenues deposited in the general fund of the Treasury under paragraph (1) are deemed to be in the nature of repayment for those authorizations set forth in section 2 of this Act. The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit an accounting report biannually of income and expenditure provided by this Act to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the

Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, is authorized to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or otherwise, up to 7,461.34 acres of lands and interest in lands located in Bernalillo County, New Mexico to be included in the Sandia Mountain Wilderness as authorized in section 1 of Public Law 95–614. Lands acquired under this section shall be administered as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System in accordance with Public Law 95–237.

II

97TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2405

To further amend the boundary of the Cibola National Forest to allow an exchange of lands with the city of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 21 (legislative day, APRIL 13), 1982

Mr. DOMENICI introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

A BILL

To further amend the boundary of the Cibola National Forest to allow an exchange of lands with the city of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first section of Public Law 95-614 is amended to read as follows: "That (a) the exterior boundary of the Cibola National Forest in New Mexico is modified to include those lands, comprising approximately 7,031.21 acres, as shown on the map entitled "Boundary Modification, Cibola National Forest" dated April 1982, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Chief of the Forest Service.

"(b) The lands included in the Cibola National Forest by subsection (a) shall be subject to a 240-acre scenic easement to the benefit of the Albuquerque Academy.".

SEC. 2. Public Law 95–614 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"SEC. 6. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, is authorized and directed to acquire the lands described in sections 1 and 4 by exchanging with the city of Albuquerque so much of Federal lands in New Mexico, consisting of no more than approximately 32,800 acres, as the Secretary of Agriculture determines is needed to equal the value of the land conveyed by the city of Albuquerque.

"(b) Subject to valid existing rights and notwithstanding any provision of law, the exchange authorized by this section shall be deemed to meet all applicable provisions of Federal law. The exchange authorized by this section shall be made within 90 days of the date of enactment of this section.".

Senator DOMENICI. We will proceed now with our witnesses. Mayor Kinney, you may proceed first.

STATEMENT OF HARRY E. KINNEY, MAYOR, CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX.

Mr. KINNEY. Thank you very much, Senator Domenici. I appreciate very much this opportunity. I well remember about 15 years ago when you were mayor of our city expressing your concern that the backdrop of our city would remain available for our citizens forever, and this is one further step in making that possible.

I am pleased to appear before you and testify today on S. 2405 which modifies existing law and facilitates the exchange of Federal lands to the city of Albuquerque. Efforts to acquire the Elena Gallegos grant began more than 10 years ago and have taken several directions before winding up on the present course.

Elena Gallegos is the last major private holding affecting the Cibola National Forest which is an invaluable recreational resource for us and visitors to our area. The grant is almost 2 miles wide and 8,100 acres in area. It extends from the foothills to the crest of the Sandia Mountains and cuts the Cibola National Forest in half.

By preserving the grant and adding it to the Sandia Mountain wilderness, the city of Albuquerque will have taken an important step to protect the national interest and an irreplaceable resource and insure that the natural beauty of the Sandia wilderness will be there for the enjoyment of generations to come. Preserving wilderness and recreational space is one of our community's highest priorities.

The city of Albuquerque with the support of our congressional delegation, assistance from the State of New Mexico, the enthusiasm and guidance of community groups, and the cooperation of Federal agencies has been able to come up with what we all believe is a workable plan for acquiring the Elena Gallegos grant from the Albuquerque Academy.

In 1978, Congress enacted Public Law 95-614 which incorporated 7,461 acres of the Elena Gallegos grant into the Cibola National Forest, authorized up to $12 million for the Forest Service to acquire that tract; and required that the city of Albuquerque purchase the remaining 640-acre tract for open space or city park use before the Federal acquisition would be triggered.

In 1980, Congress amended the Endangered American Wilderness Acquisition of Elena Gallegos from $12 million to $20 million and acknowledge that the city of Albuquerque had met the Congress requirement for local participation through an option agreement to purchase not only the 640 acres required, but also the entire 8,100 acres.

The city's commitment to the preservation of open space has been demonstrated several times over the past 10 years. During the last 6 years our citizens have voted for $2.3 million in local bonds for open space acquisition. Earlier this year our city council voted to back a temporary one-fourth cent sales tax to purchase the 8,100 acres in the Sandia Mountains and use some of the money from the transaction to maintain existing open space areas, as well as acquiring new lands.

The tax is expected to generate almost $30 million over its maximum life of 3 years to provide the city's cash share of the total $24 million purchase price and interest during the 3-year payoff. A further indication of Albuquerque's support for this exchange has demonstrated by the more than 13,000 citizens who signed a petition supporting the sales tax to be used for purchasing Elena Gallegos. Albuquerque has been decisive on these matters.

The original plan for acquiring the grant, as I mentioned earlier in my testimony, called for the city to come up with about $5.7 million to purchase 640 acres of Elena Gallegos for our open space program before the Federal Government's acquisition could be triggered. But we faced a catch-22 situation. The Albuquerque Academy was understandably not interested in selling off the grant in a piecemeal fashion. They wanted to sell the entire 8,100 acres not 640 acres to the city first and then the remainder to the Federal Government.

However, according to the provisions of the legislation, Public Law 95-614, the Forest Service could not become involved in the deal until the city had acquired its portion of that grant. The city arranged for an option agreement with the Academy which agreed to freeze the price of the grant for 2 years. To pay its share of the purchase price, the city offered three city properties valued at $4.7 million and, as the price for the option arrangement, a city-owned downtown parking garage valued at $1.6 million to the Academy. The garage's value will be applied to the final purchase price for the grant. Again, the city demonstrated its commitment to the acquisition.

In February 1980, the city's support for the acquisition was shown again by the city council when it endorsed the option agreement and declared the necessary properties as surplus. Shortly after the city signed the option agreement with the academy, the New Mexico Legislature strengthened the local support for the deal by authorizing the sale of $1 million severence tax bonds to complete the $5.7 million non-Federal acquisition package.

In January, I asked the Albuquerque Academy to temporarily extend the deadline for closing the deal to March 15. Then I directed the city's legal department to work with members of the city council to negotiate a new agreement with the Albuquerque Academy. The city's representatives and the academy settled on July 1, 1982, as the new closing date between the city and the academy. We are now operating with that extension. The sales tax was authorized on March 13 and the purchase of the grant is now proceeding.

As you can see by the history of Albuquerque's actions, acquisition of the Elena Gallegos Grant has been a priority for the city for more than a decade and has involved many energetic and tenacious citizens of Albuquerque and the State of New Mexico. Our citizens have shown on many occasions they are determined to do what it takes to achieve our goal. We will make it. I hope you will report favorably on S. 2405 to the floor of the Senate for its consideration.

If you have any questions regarding the city's support or concerns, I will be pleased to answer them. Thank you for your interest in this matter

Senator DOMENICI. Thank you very much.

Do you have anything you would like to submit to the committee?

STATEMENT OF VIRGINIA SEARS, DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO

Ms. SEARS. Yes; I have a brief statement.

Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to represent Governor King and the State government of New Mexico in support of S. 2405. The State has been involved in the Elena Gallegos project for more than 10 years. In Governor King's first administration he initiated some efforts to acquire the private lands needed to develop the long sought recreational area. The State has viewed this development as a major amenity for the residents and visitors to New Mexico as well as watershed control.

The Rio Grande River flows down the middle of New Mexico from Colorado to Texas. Half the population of New Mexico lives within a dozen miles of the Rio Grande. In the Albuquerque area the land slopes gradually up from the river east and west. East of Albuquerque, 12 to 15 miles from the river, this gradual slope is interrupted by the steep west face of the Sandia Mountains. The Elena Gallegos grant begins at that point and goes to the crest of the mountain, taking a big chunk out of the middle of the Sandias which runs 19 miles north to south parallel with the river.

The northern and southern portions of the Sandias are National Forest land. The city of Albuquerque has grown out across the area between the river and the mountains, the so-called East Mesa. The primary uses for the mountain area are for a public park for public recreation and watershed control. The private ownership of the Elena Gallegos grant has long threatened expensive unneeded residential development in this part of the mountains. The entire community and the State are virtually united in believing the Elena Gallegos grant should become a public area.

As a resident of Albuquerque's West Mesa, I have looked across the Rio Grande Valley toward the Sandia Mountains and watched the growth of the East Mesa and measured that growth at night as I observed the continuous climb of twinkling lights up the mesa and into the foothills. And I realized that the portion of the great outdoors mountain area occupied by the Elena Gallegos grant which my husband and I, with our sons, have enjoyed on many occasions might very soon be gone. Ours is the story of many New Mexicans—wanting to preserve an irreplacable resource—close to the city.

The 1980 New Mexico legislature appropriated $1 million to the city of Albuquerque toward the purchase of the Elena Gallegos grant. The legislative authorization for the sale of $1 million in severance tax bonds was a clear indication of strong statewide support for investment in New Mexico's future.

As director of the Governor's Washington office I have received many inquiries from New Mexico citizens asking what they could do to persuade our delegation and members of congressional committees in the House and Senate to support pending legislation relating to the Elena Gallegos grant. What was even more important to me was inquiries from my friends about how they could stimulate a grassroots campaign for dollars to help meet the purchase price. I think Albuquerque citizens gave their answer when they supported the sales tax for the purchase of Elena Gallegos.

Our State secretary of natural resources, Bill Huey, has supported this project through its many stages. He has given his counsel, testified at hearings and has told me that he believes the changes provided in S. 2405 will accomplish what is needed to complete the project.

Governor King and the State continue to support the development of the Elena Gallegos grant and stand ready to help. Thank you for inviting Governor King to make his views known at this hearing.

Senator Domenici. Thank you very much, Virginia. We are most appreciative of the Governor's support.

STATEMENT OF JAY SORENSON, CHAIRMAN, ALBUQUERQUE OPEN SPACE TASK FORCE

Mr. Sorenson. Senator, it is my great pleasure to appear here this morning.

I would first like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the New Mexico delegation, Senator Domenici, Senator Schmitt and other Members of Congress who really have helped us throughout our entire project. It is a project that was begun more than 10 years ago.

I would also like to express appreciation to the mayor and the city council of Albuquerque, particularly to the mayor because he has worked hard on this in his first term in office, and now his second.

Since Mayor Kinney has presented you with a history and background I need not do that. I would like to stress that this has been a very imaginative and creative effort that really has won the full support of all the people of Albuquerque. We are presenting you with what we believe is a new concept, a wilderness area on the footsteps of a city, an area that we can develop into a nature recreational area for the enjoyment of the people in Albuquerque and the State of New Mexico, and the visitors that come to our State throughout the year.

The passage of the legislation that is before you is very important. I'd like to point out that it was the public that really led the way on this. It was the public that really conceived of the idea, that dreamt of the hope for protecting the Sandia Mountains, the imagination of the public officials sought the original Federal legislation, brought the city together, worked closely with the Forest Service, helped draft the State legislation, secure passage of the State funds, and now really came up with the idea of the people of the city of Albuquerque taxing themselves to acquire this land.

We also marshaled the support that made the entire effort a success.

Senator DOMENICI. Could I interrupt? I think you're absolutely right. When you look back at it, I remember that day in this room when we thought we were making a historic decision when we included the land within the boundaries and said it will be wilderness, but looking back at that, that was very easy because that didn't acquire it. That just put it on the map. And at some point in time somebody had to pay for it. And as the mayor indicated, we said it will probably be $12 million as you recall, the first time through, but we couldn't find the money and when we finally got it settled up on a price we found we were in one of those budgetary times when it wasn't possible to get $19 or $20 million allocated.

And then the citizen groups really went to work, along with local and State officials, and you found a way to do it. With a swap, with cash up front, and you have established a fund for conservation along with it, as I understand it.

Mr. SORENSEN. Yes sir, and we could not have done it without you, but we have had broad based support from every public official. Our efforts represented a broad coalition of individuals and public interest groups ranging from the League of Women Voters, the Wildlife Federation, the Audubon Society, the Basque Society of New Mexico, the Wilderness Society of the Sierra Club. We went beyond organizations like that to include the chamber of commerce, the tourist industry, the junior league, the senior citizens' organizations, neighborhood organizations, and the student government of the University of New Mexico and high school students.

The point really is this has had broad based public support. There has been no organized opposition to it. In the interim period after the city council adopted its ordinance increasing the tax burdens on the citizens of Albuquerque, there was no major opposition, demonstration, or petitions initiated to protest this effort. In other words, there is a broad based public concensus within the city and supported by the people in the State to go forward with this idea. We see it as a move that is in the public interest, that will help to protect a resource and protect an area of great natural beauty and add to the quality of life for the people of New Mexico.

I would like to close with just a few brief remarks, and I would like to state that we see it really as an exercise in good self-governing and high minded public spirit, very much in keeping with the whole mood of the country that is captured in the idea of the New Federalism. It is imaginative and it is creative, and in keeping with this spirit, preserving something beautiful that is basic to all. I was reminded of the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson who captured it when he said that, "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm and the reward of a thing well done is to have done it well." He also noted that "Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or find it not."

The people of Albuquerque and New Mexico have done it and done it well and with enthusiasm. They wish to preserve an area of great beauty and to share with everyone who comes to visit our good city now and in the future. We hope that you will see it and will carry forward this effort to protect an area that you too will probably find to be of great beauty if you were to visit our city. And Senator Domenici, we know you are well aware of that.

We hope that you will report favorably on S. 2405 and will make this longstanding dream of the people of Albuquerque come true, and we will be able to add this to the high quality of life that we enjoy in New Mexico.

Thank you.

Senator DOMENICI. Thank you very much.

Mayor Kinney, isn't it true that there is a park or municipal and State law that would permit citizens by petition to hold a referendum had they disagreed?

Mr. KINNEY. Yes, a petition signed by about 7,000 of our citizens within the 35 days after publication would have required a vote on the action, and we had such support that I think maybe one petition form was taken out, but no further support of any petition efforts.

So people had a chance to express their viewpoints and they expressed it in favor of the additional tax on themselves.

Senator DOMENICI. Thank you very much.

I have no further questions. We're going to proceed with the Federal witness.

Mr. Raymond M. Housley, Deputy Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Housley, you have testimony on more than 2021 and 2405 in that these hearings concern themselves with two other bills. Could you for my purposes go on to the New Mexico bills and then return to the Mark Twain ones at a later time this morning?

Mr. HOUSLEY. I'd be pleased to do that, Mr. Chairman.

I can brief my testimony on the Elena Gallegos bills.

STATEMENT OF RAYMOND M. HOUSLEY, DEPUTY CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. HOUSLEY. We are pleased to have this opportunity to appear before the committee and express the Department of Agriculture's views on S. 2021 and S. 2405, dealing with the acquisition of the Elena Gallegos grant.

We support the efforts of the New Mexico Congressional Delegation to complete the acquisition of a portion of the Elena Gallegos grant, a tract of some 7,900 acres lying adjacent to the city of Albuquerque, N. Mex. We believe the procedure set forth in S. 2405 directing an exchange of Federal lands for the grant is preferable to that contained in S. 2021 which calls for the sale of Federal land in an amount sufficient to acquire the grant. We must point out that we support this bill only because the proposal has been under development for several years and substantial commitments have been made. As you are aware, the President's program on disposal of Federal real property would generally preclude such exchanges. The Federal lands that would be exchanged are the sort of lands that would likely be considered for sale under the President's program. Consequently, we would not expect to support such proposals in the future.

While we favor S. 2405, we suggest several technical and clarifying amendments to the bill. These are offered to the committee in the form of a substitute bill. Our main concern is that the bill contain a legal description of the revised National Forest boundary in addition to the map reference. Other changes would make the provisions consistent with the land exchange procedure that would be followed. Disposition of grazing permits at the time of the transfer would be subject to the provisions of section 402(g) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

With that brief summary I'd be happy to answer any questions that the subcommittee may have.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Housley follows:]

STATEMENT OF
RAYMOND M. HOUSLEY, DEPUTY CHIEF
FOREST SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Before the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Reserved Water
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate

On S. 1964 and S. 1965, bills to designate certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System and on S. 2021 and 2405, bills dealing with the acquisition of the Elena Gallegos Grant in New Mexico.

MAY 27, 1982

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to present the Administration's views on four bills that affect the lands of the National Forest System. I will discuss S. 1964 and S. 1965, bills which designate wilderness areas in Missouri first and then address S. 2021 and S. 2405, bills dealing with the acquisition of the Elena Gallegos Grant in New Mexico.

S. 1964 AND S. 1965--DESIGNATING WILDERNESS AREAS IN MISSOURI:

S. 1964 and S. 1965 would expand the National Wilderness Preservation System in the State of Missouri. S. 1964 would designate a 17,562-acre Irish wilderness and S. 1965 would designate a 6,888-acre Paddy Creek wilderness. Both areas would be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the 1964 Wilderness Act and the Act of January 3, 1975.

As a result of RARE II, four areas on the Mark Twain National Forest were recommended for wilderness designation. These four areas include Bell Mountain, Rock Pile, Piney Creek, and Devils Backbone. During the last Congress, these areas were designated as wilderness by Public Law 96-560. Two additional areas were identified for further planning during the RARE II process. They include an area known locally as the Irish wilderness and Paddy Creek which is a congressionally designated wilderness study area. I will comment first on the Irish wilderness proposal.

S. 1964 would designate a 17,562-acre Irish wilderness. The proposed wilderness is recognized as a prime candidate for wilderness by most conservation groups. However, many local organizations and local residents support nonwilderness uses for the area. This 17,500-acre area is located along the free-flowing Eleven Point River, a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System in southern Missouri. The area contains hollows, ridges, and bluffs that provide abundant habitat for a variety of wildlife.

The area was identified for further planning in the RARE II process because of the potential for valuable lead-zinc resources. The area is situated south of the currently developed portion of the Viburnum Trend, a rich lead belt that is estimated to contain 90 percent of the 1980 National output and 20 percent of the free world output of lead. Geological evidence indicates a high potential for valuable lead-zinc deposits within the proposed Irish wilderness. The actual mineral potential of the area will be determined through a joint Bureau of Mines-U.S. Geological Survey mineral assessment scheduled for completion this year. Exploratory drilling is the only means to determine the potential for this mineral resource estimated to be approximately 2,000 feet below the surface.

In May 1979, the St. Joe Minerals Corporation applied to the Bureau of Land Management for a prospecting permit covering 2,400 acres of National Forest System lands that includes 320 acres in the proposed Irish wilderness. The

Mark Twain National Forest recently completed an environmental assessment that addressed exploration within the Irish area. The Regional Forester has adopted an alternative that consents to exploratory prospecting of these lands but calls for mitigating measures to protect the wilderness option and fragile natural values in sensitive areas within the Irish wilderness. The granting of this prospecting permit is consistent with management direction set forth for further planning areas in the RARE II Final Environmental Impact Statement.

This further planning area will be considered for all uses, including wilderness, during development of the forest land and resource management plan currently underway. The plan for the Mark Twain National Forest is scheduled for completion in late 1983. In the interim, the area will be managed to maintain its wilderness potential. Activities permitted by prior rights, existing laws, and other established uses may continue pending final disposition of the area. This includes certain mineral exploration activities essential for information gathering prior to completion of the forest plan.

We believe wilderness designation is not appropriate at this time because the area's potentially significant mineral resources have not been fully assessed and this information should be considered in the forest planning process along with the wilderness and other resource values. Therefore, we recommend S. 1964 not be enacted at this time.

S. 1965 would designate a 6,888-acre Paddy Creek wilderness on the Mark Twain National Forest. This area was designated as a wilderness study area by Public Law 94-557 on October 19, 1976. This area was not included in the RARE II wilderness recommendations at the request of then Congressman Richard Ichord who felt the full study process should be followed.

The act establishing the study area directs the Secretary of Agriculture to review the study area for its suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness and report his findings to the President, who shall then advise the United States Senate and House of Representatives of his recommendation. The Forest Service has completed the required study and public hearings and the Department of Agriculture has submitted the proposal to the President for clearance and transmittal to Congress.

The "wilderness quality" rating of the Paddy Creek compares favorably to the four Missouri areas designated during the 96th Congress. Its vegetation is diverse and predominately forested. The strikingly clear Paddy Creek and Little Paddy Creek, typically Ozark, with gravel beds and alternating runs and pools, wind through the area. Rugged outcroppings of rock line the creek valleys and form a multitude of caves, crevasses, and fissures. Opportunities exist for both solitude and adventure that can provide challenge and require self reliance and judgment.

There are no foreseen significant adverse economic effects on Texas County, the surrounding counties, or the State. A minerals investigation concluded that the area is underlain with geologic formations typical of known host rocks for the important lead-zinc-silver-copper and magnetic iron desposits of the Southern Missouri District about 50 miles to the east. Extrapolation of data suggest that the area's potential for such mineral resources is low but it cannot be confirmed or ruled out without deep drilling and magnetic surveys. The estimated potential yield of timber is less than 600 thousand board feet per year.

There are three parcels of non-National Forest System land within the area. All three are privately owned: one 40 acres by an individual and the other two parcels, 40 and 80 acres, by a corporation. It is anticipated that the two corporate-owned parcels will be exchanged to the Forest Service.

S. 2021 AND S. 2405--ACQUISITION OF THE ELENA GALLEGOS GRANT IN NEW MEXICO: We are supportive of the efforts by the New Mexico congressional delegation to complete the acquisition of a portion of the Elena Gallegos Grant, a tract of some 7,900 acres lying adjacent to the City of Albuquerque, New Mexico. We believe the procedure set forth in S. 2405 directing an exchange of Federal lands for the Grant is preferable to that contained in S. 2021 which calls for the sale of Federal land in an amount sufficient to acquire the Grant. We must point out that we support this bill only because the proposal has been under development for several years and substantial commitments have been made. As you are aware, the President's program on disposal of Federal Real Property would generally preclude such exchanges. The Federal lands that would be exchanged are the sort of lands that would likely be considered for sale under the President's program. Consequently, we would not expect to support such proposals in the future.

Acquisition of the Elena Gallegos Grant, and its incorporation into the Cibola National Forest, is authorized by the Act of November 8, 1978. Land and Water Conservation Fund monies would be used for the acquisition. However, budgets subsequent to 1978 have not designated the Grant lands to be of sufficient priority to allow appropriation of already scarce funds. The Grant was appraised at about $18.5-million in 1980. As you are aware, budget requests since 1978 have not provided for this acquisition. It is not likely that funds will be forthcoming in the near future.

Acquisition of the Grant lands is strongly supported at the local level by both public and private entities. The city has actively pursued various alternative means of acquisition. The lands form a scenic backdrop to the city and are comprised mainly of rugged, steep terrain rising from the city limits to the crest of the Sandia Mountains, a change of elevation of some 3,000 feet. Under the provisions of a 1980 amendment to the 1978 Act, approximately 6,423 acres in the eastern portion of the Grant would, upon acquisition, become a part of the Sandia Mountain Wilderness which was established by the Endangered American Wilderness Act of 1978. The sale of Federal lands in New Mexico in an amount sufficient to offset the purchase of the Grant lands, as would be authorized by S. 2021, is not a desirable means of acquisition. This procedure could establish a precedent that may encourage other communities or groups to seek Federal acquisition of land devoted to a single purpose. It is our view that an exchange of lands, in the manner proposed by S. 2405, offers the best and most expeditious means of completing the action authorized by the 1978 Act. It is our understanding that action has been initiated at the local level to do this.

The Elena Gallegos Grant is presently owned by the Albuquerque Academy. The Academy has agreed to sell the lands in question to the city who would in turn exchange the property with the Federal Government. In the exchange, the city would acquire Federal lands in several locations in the State that are of sufficient value to equalize the Grant lands. This procedure is prescribed by section 206 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. About 32,800 acres of Federal land have been identified for possible exchange: 29,600 acres of which are administered by the Bureau of Land Management and 3,200 acres are administered by the Forest Service. The actual number of acres from this "pool" required to complete the exchange will be determined by appraisals of the respective properties. Conveyance of the Grant lands to the city, and subsequently to the Federal Government, would be subject to a 270-acre scenic easement requested by the Academy for their use.

While we favor S. 2405, we suggest several technical and clarifying amendments to the bill. These are offered to the Committee in the form of a substitute bill. Our main concern is that the bill contain a legal description of the revised National Forest boundary in addition to the map reference. Other changes would make the provisions consistent with the land exchange procedure that would be followed. Disposition of grazing permits at the time of the transfer would be subject to the provisions of section 402(g) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

We are aware of the local desire to complete this transaction as quickly as possible. S. 2405 calls for exchange within 90 days of enactment. Both S. 2021 and S. 2405 contain a provision that would allow the Secretary of Agriculture to complete the transaction expeditiously, bypassing where necessary some requirements governing exchanges of Federal land. We would not circumvent any law. The exchange would be made under FLPMA requirements and in observance of National Environmental Policy Act procedures. Fulfilling certain other procedural requirements, such as those governing cultural resources, could be expedited by working closely with the responsible State authorities to secure their prompt review and approval.

With these changes, we believe S. 2405 would be the appropriate means to complete the acquisition of the Elena Gallegos Grant.

This concludes my prepared statement. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

USDA SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT
SUBSTITUTE FOR S. 2405

A BILL

To amend the Act of November 8, 1978 (92 Stat. 3095, as amended) to authorize an exchange of lands with the City of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in order to expedite the acquisition of land authorized by the Act of November 8, 1978 (92 Stat. 3095, as amended), that Act is hereby amended as follows:

a. Amend section 1 to read as follows:

"A tract of land containing that part of the land described in the Elena Gallegos Grant, illustrated on maps on file with the Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, lying east of a line depicted on plat of survey dated April 1982, prepared under the supervision of A. Dwain Weaver, N.M.P.L.S. No. 6544, and further described as beginning at the closing corner between sections 35 and 36 of Township 11 North, Range 4 East, NMPM, on the south boundary of said Grant and extending N. 00°03'21" E., 2,670.40 feet to a point; thence N. 00°03'21" E., 1,244.73 feet to the projected section corner common to sections 25, 26, 35, and 36; thence continuing along section line common to said sections 25 and 26, N. 00°17'37" E., 1,346.11 feet to a point; thence leaving said section line and continuing S. 84°40'00" E., 178.00 feet to a point; thence S. 53°20'00" E., 218.00 feet to a point; thence N. 52°50'00" E., 364.00 feet to a point; thence East 225.00 feet to a point; thence N. 66°00'00" E., 1,244.14 feet to a point; thence N. 06°12'25" W., 1,765.08 feet to a point; thence N. 07°27'00" W., 2,008.00 feet to a point; thence S. 80°38'00" W., 984.00 feet to a point; thence S. 64°45'00" W., 621.00 feet to the projected section corner common to sections 23, 24, 25, and 26; thence N. 00°44'22" W., 1,382.97 feet to the southeast corner of Sandia Heights South, Unit 14, as the same is shown and designated on the plat filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico on February 12, 1975; thence continuing along the easterly boundary of said Unit 14, N. 00°04'20" E., 1,951.63 feet to the northeast corner of said Unit 14, said corner also being the southeast corner of Sandia Heights South, Unit 10, as the same is shown and designated on the plat filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico on March 11, 1974; thence continuing along the easterly boundary of said Unit 10, N. 00°02'31" E., 1,493.53 feet to the northeast corner of said Unit 10, said corner also being the southeast corner of Sandia Heights South, Unit 3, as the same is shown and designated on the plat filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico on August 3, 1971; thence continuing along the easterly boundary of said Unit 3, N. 00°03'29" E., 1,867.10 feet to the northeast corner of said Unit 3, said corner also being the southeast corner of Sandia Heights South, Unit 2, as the same is shown and designated on the plat filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico on October 20, 1970; thence continuing along the easterly boundary of said Unit 2,

N. 00°03'29" E., 1,869.70 feet to the northeast corner of said Unit 2, said corner also being the southeast corner of Sandia Heights South, as the same is shown and designated on the plat filed in the office of the County Clerk of Bernalillo County, New Mexico on June 20, 1966; thence continuing along the easterly boundary of said Sandia Heights South, N. 00°03'29" E., 1,725.76 feet to the Northwest of the tract herein described, said corner being a point on the northerly boundary of the Elena Gallegos Grant; thence continuing along said Grant boundary, S. 81°06'04" E., 1,983.01 feet to a point; thence S. 81°06'04" E., 481.50 feet to the 7-1/2-mile corner on the north boundary of said Grant; thence S. 81°06'04" E., 213.67 feet to the southeast corner of the Sandia Pueblo Grant; consisting of 7,935.84 acres, more or less: . . ."

b. Add a new section 5 to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, is authorized and directed to acquire the lands described in section 1 in lieu of purchase as authorized by section 4 of this Act by exchanging with the City of Albuquerque so much of the Federal lands administered by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management in the State of New Mexico and consisting of approximately 32,800 acres, more or less, as the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior determine are needed to equal the value of the land conveyed by the City of Albuquerque:

(b) The lands to be conveyed are subject to valid existing rights.

(c) Transactions necessary to effect the exchange authorized by this section shall be made pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2743) and other applicable law except to the extent necessary to expeditiously carry out the provision of this section and shall be made within 90 days of enactment of this Act: Provided, That the rights and responsibilities of the respective owners shall remain with such owners until such time as the conveyances are executed."

Senator **Domenici**. I understand that S. 2405, which directs an exchange, is preferred over 2021, which provides for, in whole or in part, sale and transmittal of the money for the acquisition, and I understand that you support S. 2405. You prefer it. I do, too, and I would state for the record that clearly the second bill is intended as a safeguard in the event the exchanges don't work out exactly in terms of parcels of land for one reason or another. And if we have to tie the two together in final markup to make that clear, we certainly will work on that.

The other part of your testimony, as I understand it, has to do with technical boundaries and the like which are now more specific than were before; is that correct?

Mr. **Housley**. Yes, sir, that's correct. Some changes are required and we feel it best to spell those out in addition to the map.

Senator **Domenici**. And with the changes in landmass and description it is still satisfactory to the Government in terms of the wilderness area being acquired?

Mr. **Housley**. Completely satisfactory, sir.

The map before you shows the original proposal, and there is a map showing the one provided for by S. 2405.

Senator **Domenici**. Thank you very much. I have no further questions, and I appreciate your attendance.

I think what I'll do—I had planned to recess temporarily until Senator Wallop came, but I think in deference to you, Mr. Housley, rather than wait until 11 if you would proceed to testify on the other matter before the subcommittee at this time, we won't have to wait that long, and then I'll recess for the other witnesses. They can be handled by the chairman.

Would you proceed on the other issues, please?

Mr. **Housley**. Mr. Chairman, I'll be happy to brief my testimony on these matters if that is your wish.

Senator **Domenici**. The entire statement will be made part of the record.

Mr. **Housley**. We're pleased to have this opportunity to present the administration's views on S. 1964 and S. 1965, bills which designate wilderness areas in Missouri.

S. 1964 would designate a 17,562-acre Irish Wilderness, and S. 1965 would designate a 6,888-acre Paddy Creek Wilderness.

The 17,562-acre Irish Wilderness was identified for further planning in the RARE II process because of the potential for valuable lead-zinc resources. Geological evidence indicates a high potential for valuable lead-zinc deposits within the proposed Irish Wilderness.

We believe wilderness designation is not appropriate at this time because the area's potentially significant mineral resources have not been fully assessed, and this information should be considered in the planning process along with the wilderness and other resource values. Therefore, we recommend S. 1964 not be enacted at this time.

S. 1965 would designate a 6,888-acre Paddy Creek Wilderness in the Mark Twain National Forest. This area was designated as a wilderness study area by Public Law 94-557 on October 19, 1976.

This area was not included in the RARE II wilderness recommendations at the request of then Congressman Richard Ichord, who felt the full study process should be followed.

The Forest Service has completed the required study and public hearings and the Department of Agriculture has submitted the proposal to the President for clearance and transmittal to Congress. The wilderness quality rating of the Paddy Creek proposal compares favorably to the four Missouri areas designated during the 96th Congress. There are no foreseen significant adverse economic effects on Texas County and surrounding counties or the State of Missouri.

If there are any questions on our statement——

Senator **Domenici**. If we didn't make your statement a part of the record previously, we will make it part of the record in its entirety.

With that I will recess until 11 o'clock at which time Senator Wallop will preside.

[Whereupon, a recess was taken.]

Senator **Wallop** [presiding]. I will call the subcommittee back to order, and I thank you for the time that Senator Domenici was able to offer, and my apologies for having simply not been able to get here more quickly.

I will ask again that the witnesses summarize their statements in 5 minutes in order that we may hear all of the witnesses who have come from long distances.

The hearing record will remain open, as was stated earlier, for 2 weeks after this date and your written statements will be made a part of the record in their entirety.

Senator Danforth will appear and when he comes we will permit him to testify, but in the interest of time and trying to get things done, we'll call Joe Roche, vice president, Ancient Order of Hibernians.

STATEMENT OF JOE ROCHE, VICE PRESIDENT, ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS, BALDWIN, MD.

Mr. **Roche**. Senator, we appreciate the opportunity to testify on this bill. We feel very strongly, after having been acquainted with the bill. We were alerted to the issue by our brothers in Missouri, and for means of identification I would like to identify our organization and just what we do and then you might see how we lend our support toward this very vital issue.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians was founded in America in 1836. It came to America because of a need for protection on the part of Irish immigrants. The fact that Father Hogan was an Irishman lends its association with his cause.

We have some 100,000 members, men, ladies and children, and some 700 chapters around the United States and Canada. My position with the Ancient Order of Hibernians is as national vice president and organizer. My responsibilities take me all over the United States and it was through my contacts in St. Louis that I was acquainted with this bill. They asked our support and they asked that we acquaint the members throughout the United States and Canada with the potential of this Irish Wilderness and we will alert the folks through our magazines and newspapers and other articles to ask their support for the final passage.

Father Hogan, as the record will show, was an Irish immigrant who came from Limerick. His dream was one of peace and tranquillity for Irish-American immigrants and that was what motivated him to go to the Irish Wilderness. Later on the record will show his deeds in the interest of mankind and his dream of a peaceful land, one free of bigotry and persecution, one where the people could live—as they did in Ireland before the persecution—in peaceful harmony.

Our members are loyal Americans, although their roots go back to Ireland, and being loyal Americans, we also feel strongly that this country of ours, as great a country as it is, should maintain its original identity. And the Irish Wilderness is a last bastion, you might say, of that beauty that we hope to preserve. Our brothers in St. Louis, Kansas City, and other divisions within Missouri asked the national organization to please impose upon this committee to leave that beauty as it stands and not defile it.

I would like, for the record, to talk about Father Hogan. Father Hogan, as I said earlier, came from Limerick, and he came here hoping to find a better life, a better life than what he left in Ireland. He said about the Irish Wilderness, and I would like to read, "The quiet solitudeness of the place seemed to inspire devotion. Nowhere could the human soul so profoundly worship as in the depths of the leafy forest. Beneath the swaying branches of the lofty oaks and pines where solitude and the heart of man united in praise and wonder of the Great Creator."

This, I would suggest, is the way he felt about the wilderness. This is the way he felt about his new-found home in America, and he hoped only that others would respect his decision and those of his other members who formed the community would leave it as it was once. And hopefully you gentlemen on the committee would respect those wishes today.

Thank you very much.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you very much, Mr. Roche.

Senator Danforth just arrived, and we'll have your testimony next.

Senator DANFORTH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, first of all, I have a statement of Senator Eagleton which he would like included in the record.

Senator WALLOP. By all means.

[The prepared statement of Senator Eagleton follows.]

STATEMENT OF SENATOR THOMAS F. EAGLETON
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES'
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS AND RESERVED WATER
MAY 27, 1982

Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to come before the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources' Subcommittee on Public Lands and Reserved Water today to express my desire to see the Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek Wilderness designated as part of the National Wilderness System. I am sincerely hopeful that we will see our efforts come to fruition in the very near future, and that this distinguished Committee will see fit to report the bills favorably to expedite their passage.

On December 15, 1981 Senator Danforth and I introduced Senate Bills 1964 and 1965. Senate Bill 1964 designates certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which comprise about 17,562 acres, and known as the Irish Wilderness, as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Senate Bill 1965 designates approximately 6,888 acres in the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri, which are generally depicted on a map entitled "Paddy Creek Wilderness Area," as a component area of the National Wilderness System.

In terms of wilderness areas that lie west of the Great Divide, Missouri's wilderness areas are not much larger than one's backyard. But each is unique within its own boundaries, and provides a very special retreat for the many Missourians who hike or canoe into the undeveloped areas each year.

Senator Danforth and I took great pride in co-sponsoring a bill last year that designated 27,821 acres as wilderness.

Previously, Senator Symington and I were successful in having Hercules Glades and Mingo Wildlife added to the Eastern Wilderness System. Missouri is one of the few states in the Midwest with potential wilderness areas left. Unfortunately, these two legislative victories did not complete the wilderness picture in Missouri. Two key areas remain to be added to the Missouri wilderness system -- Paddy Creek and Irish Wilderness.

I am hopeful that the hearings held this week will help to complete the efforts begun in 1973 by Senator Symington and myself.

Irish Wilderness has been called the crown jewel of the Missouri wilderness area. Named for an ill-fated settlement of Irish immigrants prior to the Civil War, the area was the first to be proposed for wilderness. It contains more pristine hollows, ridges, and bluffs than anywhere in the State. It is the home to much wildlife, including wild turkeys, black bears, and even some eastern cougars. Irish's limestone topography and geological structure is outstanding, and is used by many students of geology for field examinations.

The Senate passed a bill in 1973 to designate Irish Wilderness, but the Irish Wilderness area was dropped by the House in its consideration. Since 1973, Irish Wilderness legislation has been reintroduced by Senator Danforth and myself.

With the change in adminstrations there is even more compelling reason to give Irish its final designation. Secretary Watt has stated that one of the specific "goals" of the Department of the Interior will be to "open wilderness areas." Secretary Watt has publicly stated his support for the House-Santini bill, commonly known as the National Minerals Security Act. The act would give the Secretary of Interior broad discretion to open "withdrawn, restricted, or closed" lands for mineral entry, and extends the current 1984 deadline under the Wilderness Act for 10 more years.

Irish has a long history of controversy over the question of lead development. It is anyone's guess whether the pristine lands really store a wealth of lead, or not. I firmly believe in a balanced approach to energy and mineral development, and believe that this bill gives any mineral company the opportunity to apply for exploratory mining permits until 1984. It will not affect the pending application before the National Forest Service for an exploratory permit. Wilderness areas, however, should not be opened in perpetuity to uncontrolled mineral development. Irish cannot forever be a pawn in this guessing game. This bill provides a logical timetable to end this decade-old battle.

In 1976, legislation was introduced to establish some Missouri lands as wilderness study areas which included Paddy Creek. The Congressionally mandated studies were passed, and the National Forest Service began work on the studies. The studies, however, were overtaken by the Forest Service's national RARE I and II studies, which resulted in recommendations to Congress for areas across the country to be designated as wilderness. Paddy Creek was placed in a further planning category, awaiting the conclusion of the Congressional study. This year ends the 5-year study period, and the Forest Service has recommended that the area be placed in the wilderness system.

Paddy Creek is 6,888 acres in Texas County, located in the south central Ozarks of Missouri. Little Paddy Creek, which flows northwestward, meets Big Paddy Creek, from the south, to form Paddy Creek. Paddy Creek then flows in the Big Piney River out of the Clark National Forest.

Paddy Creek is noted for high quality botanical and geological features, including outcroppings of the Roubidoux Sandstone formation. It has obvious and outstanding wilderness values that led to its designation by Congress as a wilderness study area.

Paddy Creek is very popular with hikers and backpackers and has many hiking and riding trails. There is also a one mile nature trail from the Paddy Creek recreation area with easy access for those who prefer an easier walk. Hunting and fishing are popular in and around the area and several caves are suitable for spelunking.

In an economic analysis, Paddy Creek supplies only 1.69 percent of the commercial forest land suitable for timbering in Texas County. There are no current grading areas on the Paddy Creek area and no proven mineral reserves. The Forest Service estimates no loss of man-years for the Houston multicounty planning unit if Paddy Creek is designated wilderness. Congress should act now to add Paddy Creek to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN C. DANFORTH, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Senator DANFORTH. I welcome this opportunity to testify in favor of S. 1964 and S. 1965, bills introduced by Senator Eagleton and myself to include the Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek areas in Missouri within the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Enactment of this legislation would help fulfill a pledge I made to the voters of Missouri 6 years ago to press for designation of wilderness areas within the State. Two years ago, we achieved some success with the inclusion of four such areas; the bills under consideration today would add the two major remaining candidates within Missouri.

Other witnesses today will amply describe the scenic and historic values of the Irish Wilderness and of Paddy Creek that make them worthy candidates for wilderness designation. With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I will submit for the record my statement upon introduction of these bills, along these lines, and I will confine myself to a few key points.

Designation of Paddy Creek is, I think, fairly noncontroversial. The area is not thought to be underlaid by any minerals of consequence, and the timber loss would be insubstantial. Indeed, the U.S. Forest Service has recommended wilderness designation. The Irish Wilderness, as you will hear today, is somewhat less straightforward, involving the question of lead deposits beneath the surface.

One geologist today will tell you that there is no evidence that lead exists within the Irish Wilderness. Another geologist will express a contrary opinion. My view is this: There may be lead under the Irish, but it is extremely unlikely there is lead only under the Irish.

Here we have an area of great natural beauty, prized by Missourians as the foremost wilderness area in the State, situated close to one of the richest lead deposits in the world. Should we preserve that wilderness area undisturbed? My answer is "Yes." Should we forever preclude the extraction of lead from the Irish? My answer is "No."

Let us go forward now and designate the Irish as a wilderness area. The mining companies are not going to abandon southern Missouri because of the loss of a 17,000-acre tract. They will explore for lead on private land and on other land within the Mark Twain National Forest. If they find ore in the immediate vicinity of the Irish, we will know, for they will start to mine. And if in the future, we need more lead, and it is apparent that lead exists in the immediate surroundings of the Irish, I have no doubt that Congress will lend a sympathetic ear to the proposals for change in the status of the Irish. If we must mine there, we will; but let us turn to the Irish last, not first.

There is also concern about the economic impact of designation on Oregon County. I am sympathetic to that concern. But again, I do not believe that closing off a 17,000 acre tract will drive the mining companies away from southern Missouri, as long as there is lead to be found. If there is lead, there will be mining, and mining jobs.

There is some local sentiment in opposition to designation of the Irish, and I would not want to pretend otherwise. But let me call to your attention two letters that will be submitted to you by a later witness, John Karel, from two highly regarded past and present public officials of Oregon County—Lewis Simpson and Dorothy Ellis. They strongly support protection of the Irish Wilderness.

Mr. Chairman, the Irish Wilderness is a land with a colorful past, an area of surpassing natural beauty, and a great natural resource of the State of Missouri. I strongly urge your favorable consideration of it and Paddy Creek for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

I might say, Mr. Chairman, in the last month I have spent a great deal of time in the State of Missouri, all of the State. And the question of the Irish Wilderness is a matter which is known throughout the State of Missouri. Not just locally, but throughout the State. It has enormous support throughout the State.

There are, as I guess is almost always the case in wilderness designation, there are some detractors, there are some people who question it, but I think it's fair to say that the support for wilderness designation of the Irish is a very strongly held belief on the part of many people scattered all over the state.

Senator **Domenici** [presiding]. Thank you very much, Senator.

I feel personally that when Senators from a State, whether or not they are from the same party, have agreement on matters, designation such as wilderness, that the committee would have to have very persuasive evidence to the contrary not to agree with it.

Having been only introduced to it in the last 5 minutes, I'm not sure whether that persuasive evidence exists or not, but my general feeling is that the representatives of the State are the best determinants of what generally is good for that State, and unless we can simply not do it for reasons that I don't know about at this time, I would be inclined to support the bill.

Senator **Danforth**. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Senator **Domenici**. I think I will combine the next two panels. One is Mr. William Marbaker, executive secretary, Mining Industrial Council of Missouri, from Jefferson City; Mr. Harold Myers, assistant chief geologist, St. Joe Lead Co., Virburnum; The Honorable Hardin Franks, presiding judge, Oregon County, Mo.; Paul Faulkenberry, former mayor of Eminence, Mo. And I'll start with Judge Franks.

Again, to the extent that we can summarize.

Judge, do you have copies of your statement?

Judge **Franks**. Yes.

STATEMENT OF HON. HARDIN FRANKS, PRESIDING JUDGE, OREGON COUNTY COURT

Judge **Franks**. I have copies of my testimony which is actually a rehash of my testimony before the House. I have a number of copies of recommendations and letters from our county officials. These are all opposing this bill. From the county officials of Howard County which is on our west, and the county officials of Rifty County which is on our east, Mr. Faulkenberry here represents Shannon County to our north.

I have a petition here with 775 names of people in Oregon County opposing this bill.

Senator **Domenici**. With your understanding we will have that as part of the committee's records.

Judge **Franks**. I am Hardin Franks, and I'm presiding judge of the Oregon County Court. That's an administrative position. I am 74 years old. I've lived in Oregon County all of my life, except for just a very few years, and I think I know pretty well what the people down there want.

This wilderness that we talked about long after the turn of the century, in the teens and the twenties, was completely cut over. These timber people just almost what we call clear cut. The Forest Service came into that section in about 1933 and today we have a very fine forest. I expect this Irish Wilderness we're talking about is one of the best in the State of Missouri.

And for the last 10, 15 years, trees have been harvested, timber grown, and we will have real good timber from now on and forever. Also, we let anyone come down there to float our Eleven Point River, hike all they want to, they can camp, they can hunt and fish, and I think this goes into if it goes into wilderness they'll stop our hunting. Next thing that will happen they won't allow guns if it's under wilderness.

The material forest is no good for wildlife and wildlife is very important to us, but wildlife does much better when material trees have been removed and new growth grows. And also we feel sure that minerals are there and we feel it should be mined.

Senator Danforth and Congressman Clay have entered bills without coming down to Oregon County and talking to the local people, except I will say Senator Danforth was down there one day and talked with us, and we had him convinced. In fact he made a statement while he was there at the courthouse and testified that he said he believed we should look some place else for our wilderness. Then he goes right back to Washington, D.C., and cosponsors the bill to put it into wilderness.

We know what happened, they let the Sierra Club and some of the other sporting clubs who wouldn't know the difference between a black and white oak tree. They do not care about we people in Oregon County. Senators Danforth and Eagleton both know better. If they would be honest, they know we are right.

Congressman Clay, I don't think knows what it's all about. I doubt if he was ever in Oregon County. The Irish is a wonderful place. Good timber for now and forever. We have recreation for everyone, we have employment for our local people, and we have hunting and fishing and there is no way in the world that wilderness can do any better job. In fact I think it will harm everyone if it is declared a wilderness area.

When we have what we people in Oregon County want and what we think is best for the future, why do we have to spend time and money to fight what we already have? We're not up here asking for something, we're just here asking for what we already have. And we feel, our people have lived in Oregon County 150 years, and we've taken care of those hills and rocks and rivers, and caves, and done a doggone good job, and we are certainly not going to turn it over to the Sierra Club and to Representative Clay. We don't try to go up to St. Louis and try to tell them how to run St. Louis, and I think we're doing a damn sight better running Irish Wilderness than they are running St. Louis.

I believe that's about all I have to say. Thank you.

Senator **WALLOP** [presiding]. Thank you. And I would just say, the Wilderness Act specifically accommodates hunting and fishing, but it could not be prohibited by designation.

Judge **FRANKS**. We know it doesn't now, but we feel in a few years it will. That will be the next thing.

Senator **WALLOP**. As long as this Senator is in Congress it won't. We in our State and I suspect you in yours live by the concept and that is, I just don't believe——

Judge **FRANKS**. We under our system down there have brought that forest from nothing to today it's one of the best in the State.

Senator **WALLOP**. Is there any timber in there now?

Judge **FRANKS**. Yes, there's some good timber, and some material timber that needs to be harvested right now, plenty of it.

[The prepared statement of Judge Franks follows:]

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO
U. S. Senate Committee
concerning Irish Wilderness, Oregon County, Missouri

I am Hardin Franks, Presiding Judge of the Oregon County Court. I am 74 years of age, was born in Oregon County and have lived there all my life except for about three years.

I am presenting this testimony in representation of the feelings and opinions of the 10, 240 residents of my county. Ninety five percent of the people in Oregon County do not want to see the 17, 500 acres of Mark Twain National Forest known as the Irish Wilderness set aside as a federal wilderness area. This issue concerning the Irish has been before the people for several years now, and we are familiar with both sides.

We believe that the U. S. Forest Service is doing a fine job in treating the Irish as a multiple purpose forest, controlling recreation and timber harvest. The timber industry provides the main income for many Oregon Countians. Over 1, 000 people are employed by this industry, and 17, 500 acres is a large tract of timber to remove from that market. About 75% of the timber in the Irish Wilderness is oak; the balance is mostly pine. When an oak tree becomes 40 to 50 years old it will die. It is just not right to see timber wasted when it is a badly needed resource of our nation.

Forests such as the Irish are renewable. These trees cannot be preserved forever. By harvesting timber, removing dead and diseased trees and letting young trees grow, a lot more is accomplished for future generations. Also, logging in Oregon County does very little, if any damage to the forest floor.

In addition, we are convinced that there are minerals, lead, zinc, cobalt and possibly others beneath the Irish Wilderness. If there are large mineral deposits, they would be removed by an underground process which would make few changes in the forest area and effect only a small portion of the Irish acreage. If there are minerals under the Irish Wilderness, an about face could occur in our economy. Mining companies would hire alot of people, pay alot of taxes and give southern Missouri a boost that we badly need.

The people of Oregon County have lived with these forests, hills, springs, rivers and caves since 1800 and have preserved them well. We have been willing to share them with anyone. But now we strongly resent people from St. Louis and other places, who don't consider what we want or what is best for us, trying to decide what will be done with this land. Representatives Clay and Volkmer have introduced ~~this~~ a bill affecting Oregon County when they have no interest there; Wendell Bailey is able to represent us without their "assistance".

The people of Oregon County are the best on earth, easy-going and friendly. We have shared our Eleven Point River, our springs, our scenery, and our rocks and hills. However, we do not intend to stand by and see 17, 500 acres of our land closed to our needs. We live and work in that county and do not wish to see it become strictly a recreational area for people trying to escape the pressures of the city for a few days.

There is no common reason to change the status of Oregon County's U. S. Forest Service Irish Wilderness. We have tried to make our opinions known and understood and will continue to stand up for what we believe is right. On behalf of the residents of that southern Missouri County, I ask that you do not approve HR Bill 5686. Nor Senate Bill

1964

Thank you,

Hardin Franks
Presiding Judge
Oregon County Court

Senator **Wallop**. Thank you very much.

Mr. Faulkenberry?

STATEMENT OF PAUL FAULKENBERRY, FORMER MAYOR, EMINENCE, MO.

Mr. **Faulkenberry**. Mr. Chairman, Senator, I want to thank you for this opportunity to express my views on this Irish Wilderness subject.

I'm a timberman myself. I work for several of the big timber companies in the area. I started out with the Missouri State Conservation Commission and spent 7½ years back in the days when we had all kinds of forest fires. People burned then for a reason, they thought it was the thing to do. Some of the farmers, you know, we had cattle and hogs and everything, ran out on the range, which was bad. But after the Forest Service came into the area back in the thirties, during the Civilian Conservation Corps days or CCC days, we began to kind of turn the thing around and get some things established that people, finally, it took several years, but they finally agreed that we were doing it the right way, and so far the Forest Service has done a real fine job.

I work for the Pine Ridge Co. after I quit the Conservation. They used to go out and burn an area before they would cut it. They didn't seem to know any better. So after I went to work for them and they gave me charge of all their woods and their forests, I told them that the burning would stop. There would be no more of that. But anyway, they didn't like that much because burning before they cut the timber, that cut down the underbrush and everybody knows that the underbrush, so they call it, will one day be our timber.

The largest tree we ever cut or ever saw cut was one time a very small sprig that had come from a seedling, so we quit calling the underbrush and started calling it reproduction. Then we learned to take care of our reproduction. I have some schooling in that line and in working with the Conservation Commission for 7½ years and fighting fires almost day and night, I learned a lot myself. I think we all learned from that, even the people that worked for the Commission.

But these fires were numerous in those days. Like I said, a lot of them burned because they thought it would get rid of the ticks and chiggers. They burned for grass because it was open range. Some of them even got the idea that if we got a lot of smoke in the area it would cause it to rain. I've heard that.

But anyway, now that the Forest Service and the State Conservation Commission have carried on a good sound program down in the Ozark counties, they have this fire problem whipped. We don't have this fire problem any more. An occasional fire, not from lightning, but from someone letting a brush fire get away or something, and then the neighbors jump in and help them put it out. Years ago the neighbors wouldn't help you because they would probably be burning too. But that's all changed in the Ozarks.

I've been a mayor of the little town of Eminence, Mo., which is the county seat town, for 9 years. After working with all these timber companies and people have just quit that sort of thing. Everybody is trying to take care of our resources, and I think that's great. I'm real proud of that because I have children. I have some grandchildren, and I have about three great-grandchildren. I would like to see this country left better than I found it when I was born on the face of this Earth, and I think through our cooperation with each other we can make it that way if we all work together.

I believe since the Forest Service has done such a fine job, everybody knows those men, the Ranger, the Assistant Ranger. They go to our churches, their children go to our schools, we're all one big community. But it took a long time to bring it to that and now that we have done it and we are getting along real well, we would like to see it left that way.

I sympathize with the people that want the wilderness area. Apparently they believe that's the thing to do and all that, but I'm afraid they don't have all the facts. I'm sure or almost sure, they think we people that live down there don't care about them, but we do. We do care about people. It's what it's all about, is to help each other.

I believe that this thing can be worked out, like the Judge here says. They can still fish, hunt, swim, and hike, do whatever they want to do. But I would like to see the place kept clean.

Now if you bear with me just one moment, I want to tell you what really happened to Shannon County. We have a thing down there now called the Sink Riverways. We thought when they first started talking about that, they sold us a real bill of goods. Our county was supposed to build up over this thing and we would have something like Gatlinburg, Tenn. Well I've been to Gatlinburg, Tenn., in the timber business. They had me sold on that because after all, we need better schools, better roads, and all of those things. But what actually happened, when the National Park Service took over our rivers from the town of Eminence 2 miles upstream and 2 miles downstream, or it's not the Park Service. That's left in the hands of the private people, the landowners, they acquired all the rest of it. They took a lot of fine land up and down the Current River. Good farms, farms that had been handed down from generation to generation. Now the house is gone, there's nothing there, and they're planting a lot of it in thornbrush, if you know what I mean. Not to say a thorn as something you can't even get close to, but they've planted thornbrush down there and they're doing some terrible things. The thing that is the worst thing is the trash.

They come on Saturdays or holidays and most of them are beered up by the time they get there. We pull some of them in and keep our ambulance pretty well tied up and haul them to the hospital or somewhere, but the Boy Scouts, we have a troop in town, and I'm the coordinator of the Scout troop. I had 16 years of scouting. I have two grandsons that are Eagle Scouts, and I feel like we got a bad deal. We made a terrible mistake. But it's already happened, so now we're going to have to live with it and do the best we can.

Senator **Wallop**. I don't mean to interrupt, but we have a number of witnesses.

Mr. **Faulkenberry**. Anyway, I want to oppose the taking over the Irish Wilderness. I know all about the Irish Wilderness. I've worked out of it for T.J. Malstadt Co. who used to own it before it became a national forest. And I would like to express my view again that I feel like the Forest Service is doing a great job and we'd like for them to go ahead and manage it and take care of it and if there is any mining in the area, we need jobs down there because our timber industry is gone and there's no one working in timber any more. I just hope they get some jobs for people so they can work and pay taxes and keep our country going.

Senator **Wallop**. Thank you very much. I appreciate your coming all this way.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM E. MARBAKER II, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, MINING INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF MISSOURI, JEFFERSON CITY, MO.

Mr. **Marbaker**. I have a prepared statement and I would appreciate having it included in the record.

Senator **Wallop**. It will be included in the record.

Mr. **Marbaker**. And I will summarize what I think are some of the high points in it.

The first point I make is that we're talking about one of the greatest mining districts in the world when we talk about southeast Missouri. It's No. 1 worldwide in the production of lead. And historically, lead is pretty much the story of Missouri. We started mining lead in Missouri in 1720 and we've been doing it ever since.

At the present time we're representing, or last year, to be specific, we were 88 percent of the domestic lead production and about 15 percent of the world's production. These are just estimates, because all the figures aren't in for reasons that I think are obvious to all of us, that some of the countries that produce these minerals don't publish statements.

The issue of wilderness status for the Irish turns on the question of whether or not there is any lead under the Irish. And you can tell from the testimony that you've heard so far that there are many opinions. As far as the mining is concerned, we started from the known which was the—train and we progressed down. Each hole that is analyzed is a clue as to which direction you go next. And the information that our geologists have obtained, and I believe that this can be regarded as factual, has led us in the general direction of the Irish. Now we're not going to say that there is or is not lead under the Irish, but we are saying that based on the information we have, we should proceed and determine whether or not the ore body is present under the Irish.

And I think it's important to note that in the discovery of the Viburnum tract which is the major ore body and lead ore body in the world, that we spent about 10 years and some $50 million in exploration activity before we got the first payload. The location of the deposit was just inferred on the basis of what the geologists knew. And we can't say that it's here or there in the Irish. These deposits are, it's very easy to miss them.

We have recorded cases in Missouri where company A explored a given tract and gave up, and company B came in, explored the same tract and hit; not once but several times this occurred in the development of the Viburnum tract. And I don't think that anybody can say with any degree of certainty that there is no likelihood or that the chances of development of poor or the chances of development are bad. We're just going to have to find out.

Now the question too is raised about the environmental damage. We're not talking about a pristine wilderness when we're talking about the Irish Wilderness. We're talking about an area which you've already heard, even Senator Danforth mentioned that the area had been timber at the turn of the century. It was burned and used for pasture for quite a long period of time, and then from 1933 when the Forest Service took over until 1971, it was timber on a regular basis. So we're not talking about a pristine wilderness. We're talking about an area which has regrown, and it has regrown in such a magnificent manner that it is now considered as a potential wilderness area.

Now we would contend that we can go in there and we can do our exploration drilling and do only minimum and temporary damage on the area. And I think our record in the Viburnum tract where we have several active mines, will bear us out. We have been very environmentally conscious in that area. As a matter of fact, we have entertained visitors from all over the world in that area to see how we did it. And not just to look at the geology, but to see how well we accommodated ourselves to the environment.

We did have one advantage going in. We were able to measure the background situation, all the background levels before we started, so we know that area.

Now the MIC position is, the mining industry council, is we must keep the minerals to the Irish open and allow the orderly process in determining whether or not there is an ore body there.

I outline this mining district as embracing some 11 counties at the present time. There's about 125,000 people in that area, depending on the mining industry. Right now we're looking at a future in the known deposits that we have, of some 20 or more years. Being from a mining State, I think the Senator understands that we have to think quite a bit further ahead than that, and we feel we have an obligation to these 125,000 people that are in a large part depending on us. It's 75 percent of their tax base and that makes this pretty much a part of their community.

So we urge you to leave the Irish open for this investigation. We don't see that anybody will lose on this. The Irish will still be there and it will still look very much the same way as it does now. We urge you to leave it as it is.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Marbaker follows:]

Statement of the

MINING INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF MISSOURI

Hearing on S. 1964

Energy Subcommittee
on Public Lands and Reserved Water
Senator Malcom Wallop, Chairman

U. S. Senate

Washington D.C.
May 27, 1982

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee:

We appreciate the opportunity to present this testimony on behalf of the Mining Industry Council of Missouri which is a trade association of metal and non-metal mineral mining companies in Missouri. My name is William E. Marbaker II, Executive Secretary of the Mining Industry Council of Missouri.

In preparing to testify in opposition to this bill, we took the time to review our own testimony and that of others presented to congressional committees on similar legislation over the past ten years. The points made in these testimonies are still valid and the issues remain unchanged.

We will restate the essence of these statements as briefly as we can.

1. The area involved is the leading lead mining district in the world. 88% of our domestic lead was produced here

last year and this represented 15% of the world's production of lead metal. It is a major national asset.

2. The issue of wilderness status for the Irish turns on the question of whether or not there is a mineable lead ore body beneath the surface of the Irish.

   Proponents of wilderness status say there is no evidence that an ore body exists; opponents say they don't know if there is, but they do know that the geology of the area around the Irish is "permissive" (this is an exploration geologists' term which means if you are going to find a mineable ore body, this is the most likely place for it to be). This word "permissive" has justified the expenditure of tens of millions of exploration dollars in this area over the past fifteen or more years.

   This level of exploration activity cannot be dismissed by saying "there is no proof". Proving is what this exploration activity is all about. The mining companies are backing their belief in the mineral potential of this area with hard money. They believe that this great mining district extends beyond its present known boundaries and thus to the Irish.

3. Proponents said that allowing exploration to proceed in

the Irish would destroy the wilderness character of the area. The mining companies contend that exploration can be conducted with minimal, temporary damage to the surface area; their performance in areas of the Mark Twain National Forest open to exploration will support this claim.

Moreover, it is important to remember that the Irish Wilderness is not, as proponents of this legislation claim, a pristine forest land. Forest Service records show that timber in the Irish was 80% cut near the turn of the century and that under Forest Service management since the early thirties, timber sales continued until the early seventies. The fact that the Irish Wilderness is now a candidate for inclusion in the wilderness preservation system is proof that this area can and has recovered from these extensive logging operations. In the face of this, claims that exploration will do irreparable damage to the forest are without basis in fact.

4. The mining industry contends that the Irish must be kept open to mineral entry to insure that no valuable ore body will be lost as a result of legislative action. Until exploration by drilling confirms or denies the existence of a mineral ore body, the Irish must be presumed to have mineral potential.

These, in sum, are the issues and arguments made over the years in regard to the Irish Wilderness.

However, in making our review of this testimony, we noted that a very important factor had never before been addressed, the people who live in the district and the effect passage of H.R. 5686 would have on them. They have a vital interest in what is done with regard to the Irish Wilderness.

The mining district embraces part or all of some eleven (11) counties in southeast Missouri. Until the discovery and development of the "New Lead Belt" or as some call it, "the Viburnum Trend" in the late fifties and early sixties, this was an economically depressed area, losing population, with a low average income and poor public services. This gloomy picture has been radically changed with the development of the mining district; people are returning, the population is growing and the economy is strong. Over 125,000 Missourians live in this area and they depend on the mining industry for their economic well being. They see the inclusion of the Irish in the national wilderness preservation system as an act which could put at considerable risk the benefits that have come to them as a result of the mining activity in the area. They know as we all do that eventually the ore bodies will be depleted, but they do not want to have their future dimmed or shortened by legislative action.

Among the beneficiaries of a decision to keep the Irish open will be these 125,000 plus citizens; they get the payroll, they share in the tax revenues, they share in the income from royalties paid to the government and they depend on the economic activity generated by the mining companies. These people make the Irish Wilderness different from other areas proposed for wilderness status. Because they are there, they must be taken into account when considering whether this legislation should pass or fail.

We urge you to leave the Irish Wilderness as it is. The Forest Service management of this area which made it an attractive candidate for wilderness classification will continue. The recreational use by hunters, fishers, hikers and others will continue. The mineral potential of the Irish will be determined. Multiple-use will serve more people better.

This concludes my statement. If there are questions I will answer them to the best of my ability. Thank you.

Senator **Wallop**. Are there existing rights in the Irish now?

Mr. **Faulkenberry**. Yes there are, as of this moment, applications for exploration permits. The question has been raised on why did we wait so long to get down there and file these requests for exploration permits. The operating companies are allowed to have, well, they were expanding their lease allowance in an orderly process as they worked their way down. We are now on the outside of the Irish, and applications have been made for the inside of the Irish for exploration permits.

Senator **Wallop**. Thank you very much.

Mr. Myers?

STATEMENT OF HAROLD E. MYERS, ASSISTANT CHIEF GEOLOGIST, ST. JOE LEAD CO., VIBURNUM, MO.

Mr. **Myers**. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm Harold Myers. I'm assistant chief geologist, St. Joe Lead Co. For the last 12 years I've been responsible for lead-zinc exploration and specifically in Missouri where I've lived for that period of time. Sitting with me is Mr. Richard Bliss.

Again, I would like my statement to be entered in the record and I'll try to summarize very briefly.

Senator **Wallop**. It will be entered.

Mr. **Myers**. I would say in opening that I'm disappointed to hear Senator Danforth say he's unwilling to reconsider based on the facts that have been discovered in the period of 6 years, because a lot of information has been gathered over the 6 years. Mining companies have been active in that area. Some 10 mining companies are active in that forest at this time.

First I would like to say we do see, and we're seeing some time in the future, we're projecting say 20 years or 25, it's hard to predict. As you know they do die hard, but they do die. The last time St. Joe made this type decision was in 1944, near the end of the war they saw the old lead belt which was in the flat area of Missouri, they said we've got to find something in Missouri's best place, so they started an exploration program at that time has continued to date, but it was 1957 before they finally found the ore body that had any hopes of replacing the mining we had. And because we did find this ore body we were able to have an orderly shutdown and phase out of the old lead belt where we mined it clean because—was not depending upon us to supply the whole thing.

We have now reached that point again. The program has been continuous all this year. The point I make is that the Irish is not a pristine untouched area. It's been cut over, it's been burned, it's been abused, and since the thirties when the Forest Service—it has been managed very nicely and no one questions the fact that it is a nice area. It's a beautiful area. But there are other beautiful areas in the Ozarks and other areas that are set aside.

Just a few miles from me there's a 36-square-mile area set aside for the National State Conservation Commission for wildlife management and wilderness. It's not designated wilderness, but it's management.

So it is not the only opportunity in the area. After St. Joe had applied for the permit in 1977, we made our first application for 320 acres and in 1980 we made another application for approximately 570 acres. These are larger permit applications. And at that time the USGS Bureau of Mines made a mineral appraisal and of course it's hard to tell from the surface what is 2,000 feet down, but the principle investigator did say the only way to obtain definite information regarding the deep lying formation was drilling which we would have to agree with.

And since that time, the National Forest has made an environmental assessment for prospecting on the Irish Wilderness. This has been released just shortly. I have not seen a copy of it, but in summary they said either alternative would expect to have a major long term significant environmental impact as a result, and we would disturb a very small area, usually something in the order of a 100-foot circle. We have been operating on the National Forest permit system and working with the rangers ever since the early 1950's in Missouri. Rangers are familiar with us and our type of operation and we're familiar with what their requirements are. We have done environmentally sound exploration programs in other areas and we feel we could do it here too. So why do we come to the Irish? Because we started in 1976. We had done some early drilling back up in the early sixties and late sixties and we moved out because of other economic considerations and it wasn't at that time the best looking area we knew of.

We came back in 1976 when I made the first application for permits and we have been drilling continuously since that time. Most of our drilling has been on private land because of the delay in obtaining permits. Usually we have the area evaluated by the time we get the permit, but since 1976 we have drilled almost 100 holes and we've gone step by step down until where we now are knocking at the door of the Irish and we feel although we don't know minerals are there we feel this is the best place in the United States at this time to look and we're willing to spend our money looking at it. And other mining companies apparently have the same feeling, because we discovered last week that most of the rest of the Irish applications have been made by other companies. So this is something we feel, it is right now in our judgment the best place to look, and we wish it weren't. We wish it were somewhere else, but unfortunately that's just the way it looks at this time, and so we feel that we have done a good job. The Forest Service has done a good job in management. We've had experience and we can continue to do this and we urge that you do not make this wilderness, but continue the present plan and have the best of everything.

One other statement I would like to make, is that the other geologist that Mr. Danforth referred to, Mr. Dan Kessinger, and he's been used by Mr. Danforth in other tests, although I know nothing of his credentials or background, I do know that he is not familiar to the geologists that work in the State of Missouri in mining particularly. And I know for sure he has no knowledge of what has taken place since 1976. Although his theory, we've since disproven it and we've followed our intuition to where we are now.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Myers follows:)

Testimony of
Harold E. Myers
Assistant Chief Geologist, St. Joe Lead Company

This statement is presented for the purpose of showing that the "Irish Wilderness" Further Planning area should not be made into Wilderness Area without provisions for lead and zinc exploration within its boundaries and the possibility of mining should said exploration discover an orebody.

My name is Harold E. Myers. I am employed by the St. Joe Lead Company as Assistant Chief Geologist, Southeast Missouri Mining and Milling Division. For the last 12 years, I have been directly responsible for St. Joe's exploration program in Missouri.

St. Joe has a greater interest in the status of the "Irish Wilderness" Further Planning area than the other such areas in Missouri (both presently under study and those already declared wilderness) because we believe it to have the best chance of containing a major mineable ore deposit. However, St. Joe has not opposed such designation for any of the other areas in Missouri.

The RARE II process studied the "Irish Wilderness" area, and placed it in the Further Planning category because of its mineral potential. Consequently, in 1979, the U.S.G.S. and Bureau of Mines conducted a mineral appraisal of the area which has not been released to date. Because any economic concentrations of mineralization are expected to be buried more than 2,000 feet below the surface, it was the opinion of the principal investigator that core drilling would be the only feasible way to obtain definite information regarding the deep-lying formations that potentially contain the hard rock minerals of interest.

As part of an on-going exploration drilling program in the area St. Joe, in May, 1979, applied for a prospecting permit for a small area within the Further Planning area boundary. This was part of a larger area covered in adjoining prospecting applications outside the area. In May, 1980, St. Joe applied for a prospecting permit for another small area within the Further Planning area. Consequently, the Forest Service has conducted an Environmental Assessment for exploration drilling within the "Irish Wilderness" Further Planning area. They have received public comments, but to date the final report has not been released. In the draft, the Forest Service studied two alternatives under which minerals prospecting would be permitted and concluded, "Neither alternative is expected to have major long term significant environmental impacts as a result of the prospecting." It is evident that the rules and regulations designed to protect the scenic and environmental values of this area have been effective and are now working.

I feel strongly that the procedures outlined by Congress and implemented in the Mark Twain National Forest have done and are continuing to do their job of protecting the area. There is no compelling reason at this point for Congress to short circuit the RARE II process and legislate the area to Wilderness at once.

I would like to emphasize that wilderness is a renewable resource. The "Irish Wilderness" Further Planning area is a prime illustration of this fact. It has been variously impacted by man since about 1880. It has been extensively timbered several times and the last timber sale closed as recently as 1971. A copy of timber cutting history is attached as Appendix A. It contains at least 56 miles of roads, and although they are not presently maintained, recreation vehicles continue to use most of them. A

Civilian Conservation Corps compound was located within its boundary in the 1930's. In spite of all this use, it is now a fine tract of forest. In fact, most tracts in the Ozarks, if protected from fire and left to nature, are equally attractive 20-30 years after timbering. A drill site measuring, at most, 100 feet in diameter will have much less impact than a major timber sale. In fact, it is difficult to locate a drill site only a few years old where the restoration requirements were much less stringent than has been proposed for sites in the Further Planning area.

St. Joe fully expects our present mine sites within Mark Twain National Forest to someday return to the state where they can be managed just like any other tract of forest. We feel this is an excellent example of multiple use.

The last point I would like to make is that mines are where you find them and that they are difficult to find. A mineable concentration of minerals is a freak of nature and at the present time, no one can say why an orebody is located in one place instead of in another equally promising location. Geologists can recognize the conditions that are favorable for finding ore, but after that, it is just a matter of testing and more testing until ore is found or until the possibilities are exhausted. In Missouri, the testing is done by diamond drill holes.

Mineral exploration in southern Missouri is done by searching for favorable host rocks in wide spaced drill holes--often many miles apart. If favorable host rocks are located, the hole spacing is reduced to about 500-1,500 feet in order to determine the size and shape of the favorable zone and also to look for ore.

St. Joe first drilled in the Van Buren-Winona area, about six miles from the "Irish," in the early 1960's. We took another look in the Eminence area, about 20 miles north of the "Irish," in the late 1960's. I first became personally interested in this area in the mid-1970's and commenced our present drilling program in 1976. Other companies were also becoming active in the area at that time. Presently, about 15 major companies are exploring in the general area, because there is the potential for more Missouri-type lead-zinc mines. Other testimony given at this hearing describes the importance and value of these mines. St. Joe's drilling has gradually led us to the south and west until we are now against the "Irish Wilderness" Further Planning area. We feel that favorable host rock underlies at least part of this Further Planning area and are seeking an opportunity to test it for mineralization. We know we can conduct a drilling program with no long term impact on the area and only minimum short term impact.

Using the Viburnum Trend mines as a model, an area less than 20% of the size of the "Irish Wilderness" Further Planning area could supply the U.S. mine production of lead for 50 years. I emphasize that we do not know if there are orebodies buried deep (>2,000 feet) under the "Irish Wilderness," but the potential is certainly there and we are willing to spend our money to try to find them. Can we, as a nation, afford to take the chance of locking up such a potential resource without even trying to locate it? We feel the answer is, "No we cannot."

APPENDIX A

"IRISH WILDERNESS" FURTHER PLANNING AREA TIMBERING HISTORY, AS PROVIDED BY U.S. FOREST SERVICE DISTRICT RANGER BOB POKELA AND ASSISTANT RANGER RANDY SHEPARD,

May 18, 1979

1880-1900's - First logging period, total cut was approximately 80%. The steep slopes along Eleven Point River were not cut.

Early 1900's to about 1936 - Probably burned each spring and used for grazing.

About 1936-1950 - Used as cooperative U.S.F.S. and Missouri Conservation Commission game refuge.

1950's - Period of moderately extensive timber cutting.

1968 - Date of last timber sale.

1971 - Last timber sale closed.

S6

Senator WALLOP. Has there been any drilling in the Irish?

Mr. MYERS. No sir.

Senator WALLOP. How long would it take and what would it take to go in establish existing tracts of that type?

Mr. MYERS. It would be hard to say because basically our exploration plan is, well once we're on wild spaced drilling a mile apart and once we've established, we come in on 5- to 1,500-foot centers and drill trying to find, until we either find mineral or prove there is no mineral there.

So it's a large tract, 17,000 acres, and our land in one State is only 20,000 acres we can control, so from our standards it's a fairly large tract. Last year's production came off of 40 acres of land, so small acreage potentially has very large ore bodies, so it would be hard to say how many holes it would take, but it would be a matter of a few years, not months, but years.

Mr. BLISS. Senator Danforth suggested this area could be designated as a wilderness now with exploration continuing in the general area and then use this as a last resort, but since the information that the Senator has been looking at is supplied by the State Geologist you will hear testify later, that information is quite old. And there has been a lot of exploration in the area. And unfortunately they're at the point now where this seems to be the appropriate area to look next. The other factor is that the mines that are working now do have a definite finite life, and they will be mined out in a few years. And the planning years, you know, could be 20 years to locate the ore body and draw the planning to open the mine.

The entire infrastructure, or 90 percent of the infrastructure of the U.S. lead industry is in that area and if another major ore body is not found far enough ahead of time to replace what is being mined at the current time, all the mill smelters and skilled labor force and so forth in that area will have to be relocated, and unfortunately there is no place else in the United States that we know of that has anything approaching the kind of lead deposits that have been found in that area to date.

Senator **Wallop**. Thank you all very much.

You do create a puzzle, and if you have any further statements or testimony which you wish to submit, as I say, the record is open for 2 weeks. We will have some questions which we may submit to you.

The next panel is Mr. John Karel, Missouri Wilderness Coalition; Greg Iffrig, Irish Wilderness Protective Association; Mr. Charles Callison, Public Land Institute; and Mr. Wilson Elliott, resident of Paddy Creek Area.

Mr. Karel?

STATEMENT OF JOHN KAREL, MISSOURI WILDERNESS COALITION, COLUMBIA, MO.

Mr. **Karel**. My name is John Karel and I'm privileged to be the director of the Missouri State Park System back in the State of Missouri. I am here today, however, as a private citizen representing the Missouri Wilderness Coalition.

The Missouri Wilderness Coalition is an organization of 41 affiliated organizations including by the way, and relative to earlier testimony, a number of hunting and fishing groups. And if areas in the State of Missouri are going to designate wilderness and preclude hunting and fishing they would be quickly undesignated.

Our organization includes over 30,000 individuals. I'm here today to talk to you about two areas that are the keystone and symbol of any adequate system of wilderness protection for our State. We're extremely proud of both the Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek, and grateful to our delegation for having introduced legislation that would see that permanent protection. The Irish Wilderness is a 17,500 acre tract of national forest land in Oregon County. It has a wealth of human and natural history and it is without question the clearest, strongest expression of Ozark landscape, geology, ecology and natural beauty.

We've tried to organize for the sake and efficiency of the committee our organization in various topics, and the subject that I will briefly touch on is basically the history of the proposal and the background for the proposal. The Irish Wilderness is one of the oldest blocks of public land that the Forest Service acquired in Missouri back in the 1930's, and as early as 1937 a recreation plan for Mark Twain National Forest, the Irish Wilderness was identified as having special characteristics and was proposed as a natural area.

In 1946 when the Forest Service had only an administrative system of wilderness, our State's most respected and well known writer, Len Hall, called for a designation long before the concept of wilderness became current.

In 1964 when Congress passed the Wilderness Act, citizens looked again to this as one way to provide permanent protection for what everybody recognized as the best wilderness resource in

Missouri. The Forest Service responded to these requests in 1968 by a halt of any additional timber sales. There have been no timber sales in the Irish Wilderness since 1969.

In 1971 the Forest Service itself proposed a special management zone for the area at 20,400 acres. This is several thousand acres larger than the present compromise proposal that Senators Danforth and Eagleton have presented before you today.

In 1973 the Forest Service had a draft and a final environmental impact statement on designating the Irish Wilderness or what they called White Creek as a unit of what they called an eastern wilderness, and recommended designating legislation for it. Again, 19,000 acres, several thousand acres larger than our present proposal.

The purpose of going through that history is just to indicate that this area has been long recognized as an outstanding wilderness resource. Paddy Creek has also had a long history of support in the Forest Service, and gone in RARE II and recommended wilderness for it. It was put back for further planning because it was designated wilderness study area. It has since then been through the draft environmental impact statement. We understand the final has been approved through the Secretary of Agriculture and is presently in the Office of Management and Budget awaiting finalization.

In RARE II the Irish Wilderness had the opportunity for public comment. The public did comment on the Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek and in both cases overwhelmingly supported its designation. Most recently the Forest Service issued an environmental assessment addressing the possibility of core drilling in the Irish Wilderness for lead-zinc mineralization. Almost 4,000 Missourians responded to that and of those 4,000 people 97 percent indicated that they prefer the area be designated as a wilderness before core drilling is considered to insure that the Congress of the United States would have direct oversight responsibilities over the protection of the wilderness values of the area.

Finally, in December 1981, Missouri Delegation again responded to the overwhelming concensus of the people of the State and have introduced this legislation. We are very grateful to them for that and we ask that you act speedily on it.

I have with me a couple of letters that I would like to bring to your attention and to offer for the record. A couple of people were not able to be here but they asked that I refer to their letters in my testimony and with your permission I will do so.

First of all, mention was made earlier to the Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission, the State of Missouri, is responsible for fish, wildlife and resources. They've endorsed the Irish Wilderness.

I have a letter from Mr. Bill Royce who is a native of the area. He's editor of the local newspaper and he asked that I read the following sentences from a letter which you will be receiving:

> My late mother was born and raised in the Irish Wilderness and was of Irish descent. The old Keathley farm is now part of the U.S. Forest Service. My family and I presently reside on a small farm just a few miles from the proposed wilderness area and during her last visit, before she passed away, I asked my mother her opinion about the wilderness preservation concept. She approved of it almost tearfully. She would have been 82 this year.

The final two documents that I would like to refer to I hope will dispel any notion that the local opinion of Oregon County is universally opposed to the Irish Wilderness. The first letter is from a Louis A. W. Simpson, and I'll just read an excerpt from his letter:

> Dear Sir, I'm Louis A. W. Simpson, a native of Oregon County. I strongly support this bill. I've been a member of the Missouri House of Representatives, served three terms on the Oregon County Court, a member of the Oregon County Historical Society, and I published the history of Oregon County and it is now in its second edition.
>
> The Irish is unique and must remain in this status, and I underline must.
>
> I wish to present under separate cover to your Committee a copy of my Oregon County's three flags relating to the early history of Oregon County. It's testimony of House Bill 5686, the legislation identical to S. 1964. I refer your Committee to pages 31, 32, and 33 relating to the history of the Irish Wilderness.

Senator **Wallop**. We'll have that as part of the Committee record.

Could I interrupt?

We have yet seven people to testify, and we have not more than 28 minutes left.

Mr. **Karel**. I would indicate that a sitting Judge of the County Court of Oregon which is an elective office, Judge Dorothy Ellis is also a native of Oregon County and her family was among the first settlers of the county. She's written a strong letter of support indicating that her interest has got to be very strong with the economic well-being of Oregon County, and she sees this bill as providing no problem whatsoever to the continued economic health of Oregon County.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Karel follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF JOHN KAREL

MISSOURI
WILDERNESS
COALITION

Mr. Chairman, my name is John Karel and I am representing the Missouri Wilderness Coalition. We appreciate the opportunity to appear today to advise this subcommittee of our position on this legislation. The Missouri Wilderness Coalition is an informal alliance of 41 affiliate organizations (list attached) representing over 30,000 individuals across Missouri and the Midwest united in a committment to the wise stewardship of Missouri's meager remnants of wilderness quality lands. The Coalition has in recent years been instrumental in developing proposals that Congress has enacted as units of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Missouri now has six designated wilderness areas totalling 48,000 acres. We are pleased with these achievements and grateful to Congress for its decisive actions, but in a sense the legislation you are presently considering is the root of all our efforts, and the keystone of any adequate system of wilderness resources in the Ozark Uplands of Missouri.

The Irish Wilderness is a 17,500 acre tract of National Forest land located in Oregon County on the flank of the Eleven Point River. A wealth of human and natural history make this area the most outstanding remaining wilderness resource in the state of Missouri. It is, without question, the clearest, strongest expression of Ozark landscape, geology, ecology, and natural beauty. The Irish is the best of its kind, and the last of its kind.

The Coalition strongly supports designation of the Irish Wilderness and applaude our Missouri delegation that has introduced it. In preparing for this hearing several of the groups represented here today conferred and in the interest of efficiency have each prepared testimony with emphasis on a particular aspect of the issue. The Coalition's testimony will specifically address the background and timeliness of the proposal before you.

The idea of preserving for future generations the area known as the Irish Wilderness goes back at least to the point at which the area was originally acquired by the federal government in the mid 1930's. It was one of the very first large blocks of land to be purchased by the newly authorized Mark Twain National Forest. In 1937, the National Forest prepared a Recreation Plan which called for the establishment of a "Whites Creek Natural Area," encompassing the core of the present Irish Wilderness. In 1937 the whole area was recognized as one of the last bastions of natural Ozark wildlife and designated as the Wilderness Refuge in cooperation with the state of Missouri.

In 1946, Missouri's most prominent outdoor writer, Len Hall, called for the official designation of the Irish as a unit of the Forest Service's then administrative system of wildernss. This was followed in the early fifties by extensive surveys and articles in the St. Louis Post Dispatch by Don Cullemore and in the Missouri Conservationist by Dan Saults, who reporetd movingly of the special values of the "space and breadth and clean loneliness" of this haunted tract of land.

A proposed Corps of Engineers dam on the Eleven Point River in the 1950's was defeated partly because of intense local and statewide opposition to the flooding of part of the wilderness.

In 1964, Congress made wilderness a legislative system and attention shifted back to official designation. In 1968 a citizen report was prepared by Dr. David Lyon and Charels Watson which recommended official congressional designation of the wilderness. At the request of this study group and the Conservation Federation of Missouri, including most of the major conservation groups in Missouri, in 1968 the Forest Service terminated any new timber sales in the area. There have been none since.

On April 13, 1969, the Conservation Federation passed Resolution No. 19 calling for an official study of the area's suitability "for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System."

In 1970 statewide representatives met with the Forest Service in March and participated in an official tour of the area in October, in the exploration of the wilderness concept.

In 1971, the Forest Service developed a proposal for special management of the area which they called the "Whites Creek Unit" after one of the larger drainages in the wilderness. Their proposed acreage at that time was 20,460.

In 1972 additional citizen studies by a national Sierra Club team, and the local Webster Groves Nature Study Society confirmed and reiterated the call for congressional wilderness designation.

In response to mounting citizen and congressional interest the Forest Service in 1973 issued a landmark document: A Proposal—Whites Creek (Irish) Eastern Wilderness (1973 Draft, 1974 Final). In this proposal the Forest Service recommended designation of the Irish as an "Eastern" wilderness of 19,050 acres. Among the factors pointed out as contributing to this conclusion:

- "Since 1900 the area has been in a state of returning to a natural forested condition." (from Summary).
- "Forest Service management since the 1930's has generally stressed maintaining the naturalness of the area" (from Summary).
- "The area meets the criteria for Eastern Wilderness (p 8).
- "The Irish Wilderness proposal is unique in its potential for an Eastern Wilderness area" (p 9).

At about this same time, Congress took up the issue of wilderness designations on the National Forests in the Eastern United States. The Irish Wilderness was listed in the very first of these bills, introduced by Senator Henry Jackson of Washington in 1971. This legislation passed the Senate twice, both times including the Irish Wilderness at 19,100 acres, larger than the present proposal. The second Senate passage was in 1974. Through the 1970's, the support of three senators, two governors, and the overwhelming majority of the Missouri House delegation were not successful in securing designation of the Irish Wilderness.

On April 18, 1977 Senators Jack Danforth and Tom Eagleton introduced S. 1285, a new compromise proposal with the smaller acreage of the present legislation. Later that same month, a new organization was formed to finally resolve the issue, The Irish Wilderness Protective Association. A board of directors was chosen and the organization officially announced on May 20 of 1977, with Dan Saults of Branson as first and present President.

At this same time, the Department of Agriculture initiated its Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II). Not unexpectedly, the Irish Wilderness emerged from that process with the highest wilderness quality rating of any area in Missouri. For reasons related solely to potential mineralization, however, which will be refuted by another witness, the Forest Service failed to recommend the area for wilderness. During RARE II the Missouri public was invited to comment on the various options for the Irish and they did, preferring Wilderness over Non Wilderness or even Further Planning by a lopsided 272 to 1.

The most recent Forest Service action related to the Irish Wilderness has been the issuance in late 1981 of an Environmental Assessment, which addresses the possibility of core drilling inside the Wilderness. The public response to this Assessment was even more compelling than during RARE II. A tabulation of these results is attached, but in summary, over 4,000 persons responded to the assessment and of those over 97% favored wilderness designation before any prospecting should be considered. Even if petition signatures are counted as only one input per petition sheet, the results are still 80% in favor of wilderness.

In the midst of all of this activity, the press in Missouri has reflected the attitudes of Missourians on this issue. Attached are a sampling of articles and editorials. Support for the wilderness has come in the past several years form virtually every major newspaper in the state of Missouri including the Kansas City Star and Times, St. Louis Post Dispatch and Globe Democrat, Springfield News & Leader and Daily News, Colubmia Tribune and Missourian, St. Joseph Gazette, the Southeast Missourian in Cape Girardeau, the Doniphan Ozark Graphic, and Missouri Life magazine.

In response to this unmistakable consensus of Missouri opinion, the Missouri delegation has once again offered legislation. On December 15, 1981 Senators Tom Eagleton and Jack Danforth jointly introduced S.1964 and on March 2, 1982 Representative Harold Volkmer and Bill Clay introduced H.R. 5686, both of which would at last designate the Irish Wilderness.

The efforts of Missouri's delegation through the last decade to secure this designation have always been appropriate. At the present time, in light of the completion of RARE II, followed by the threat of mineral entry into this extraordinary area without congressional oversight, the issue has come to a critical head. At this point, the overwhelming majority opinion must prevail and the designation be secured. We ask that the subcommittee review the evidence of public support for the Irish Wilderness as well as the resource considerations to be presented by the other witnesses, and act speedily to bring this outstanding resource into the National Wilderness Preservation System.

II- Paddy Creek

In addition to the Irish Wilderness, the Coalition also strongly supports the designation of Paddy Creek in Texas County as a Federal Wilderness. Paddy Creek is located in a different part of the Ozarks from the Irish Wilderness, or any other designated wilderness, and offers unique and distinctive values to the National Wilderness Preservation System. As with the Irish Wilderness, the Coalition testimony will concentrate on the public record of support for this proposal. Paddy Creek also enjoys a long history of positive backing for its outstanding wilderness values.

Administratively, Paddy Creek was first recognized for wilderness potential in 1972 when the Forest Service identified it as a potential eastern "Wild Area" and issued an order to refrain from timber sales or road construction. In the next several years citizen studies were conducted, most notably by the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club, and the outstanding wilderness values confirmed. In 1975 and 1976, then Congressman Ichord reviewed the proposals and concurred in the designation by P.L. 94-557 of Paddy Creek as a Wilderness Study Area.

Subsequent to that designation, RAREII rated Paddy Creek as possessing outstanding wilderness values. Another result of the studies in RAREII were several very minor boundary revisions, with which the Coalition concurs.

The public response to RAREII showed that Missourians favored wilderness designation over non-wilderness for Paddy Creek by 224 to 3.

Following RAREII, and pursuant to the provisions of P.O. 94-557, the Forest Service released in the spring of 1980 the Paddy Creek Wilderness Study Report (Draft). On the basis of their resource analysis, the Forest Service recommended wilderness designation as the pereferred alternative. Public comment overwhelmingly confirmed that conclusion. Of almost 2,000 persons submitting opinions over 90% favored the wilderness alternative. Almost all of these were Missouri inputs, and even at the local Texas County level there was substantial support. Tabulated results are attached.

This local support was at least partly the result of an organization of people formed in 1979 known as the Friends For Paddy Creek Wilderness. This organization is made up entirely of Texas County residents who endorse the Paddy Creek Wilderness.

Following these events, the Forest Service forwarded their recommendation to Washington, D.C., where, we have been told by Forest Service officials, it has been approved by the Secretary of Agriculture.

On December 15, 1981, Senators Tom Eagleton and Jack Danforth jointly introduced S.1965 and thus have acted upon the firm consesus of Missourians on behalf of the Paddy Creek Wilderness. The Coalition urges that Paddy Creek be joined with the Irish legislation and acted upon favorably.

MISSOURI
WILDERNESS
COALITION

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION ROSTER
MAY 1982

Arnold Whitewater Club
Audubon Society, National
Backwoods Equipment Company, Kansas City
Backwoods Equipment Compnay, Clayton
Beaver Bend Swamp Rangers, Cape Girardeau
Burroughs Audubon Society, Kansas City
Camper's Chalet, St. Joseph
Cedar Creek Landowners Association, Ashland
Choteau Grotto, National Speleological Society, Columbia
Cinque Hommes Long Rifles, Perryville
Citizens Environmental Council, Kansas City
Coalition for the Environment, St. Louis
Conservation Federation of Missouri, Jefferson City
East Ozarks Audubon Society, Farmington
Environmental Education Organization, University of Missouri
Friends for Paddy Creek Wilderness, Roby
Irish Wilderness Protective Association, Branson
Mississippi Valley Chapter, Ozark Society, Cape Girardeau
Missouri Audubon, St. Louis
Missouri Friends of the Earth, Columbia
Missouri League of Conservation Voters, St. Louis
Missouri Trails, Jefferson City
Missouri Wild Turkey Federation, Springfield
Moberly High School Biology Club, Moberly
102 River Club, Maryville
Outing Society, St. Joseph
Ozark Green World Avengers, Ashland
Ozark Wilderness Waterways Club, Kansas City
Ramsey's Rangers, Alma
River Bluffs Audubon Society, Jefferson City
St. Louis Audubon Society, St. Louis
St. Louis Open Space Council, St. Louis
Schoolcraft Chapter, Ozark Society, Springfield
Sierra Club, Ozark Chapter, Creve Couer
Southeast Missouri State University Biology Club, Cape Girardeau
Taum Sauk Whitewater and Wilderness Works, Columbia
Unitarian Universalist Church, Columbia
Walker Works, Independence
Webster Groves Nature Study Society, Webster Groves
Wilderness Adventures, University of Missouri
Environmental Conscience, Independence

29 Bearfield Road, Columbia, Missouri 65201

- PUBLIC RESPONSE RESULTS -

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

IRISH WILDERNESS EXPLORATORY PROSPECTING APPLICATIONS

The Forest Service issued the document in early December of 1981 outlining various alternatives for issuance of exploratory prospecting permits in the Irish Wilderness. The public was asked to respond by January 14, 1982. The response has been tallied by the Forest Service and the results outlined below are those received from Mr. Jim Crates, Assistant Forest Supervisor, Mark Twain National Forest.

TOTALS

By Input	250	Personal Letters
	77	Response Forms
	211	Petition Sheets
	1	Resolution
	539	
By Signature	3,924	(These represent 24 organiations, 519 in-state responses (96%), and 20 out-of-state responses (4%).

UNIT INPUT PREFERENCE

11	Favored no Alternative
25	Favored Alternative I -- Mineral Prospecting
2	Favored Alternative I with Modifications
34	Favored Alternative II - Mineral Prospecting with some restriction
1	Favored Alternative II, part A
5	Favored Alternative II with modification
34	Favored No Prospecting Whatsoever
425(79%)	Favored Designation as Wilderness before Prospecting and that Prospecting be done by the Federal Government

SIGNATURE PREFERENCE (includes signatures on all 539 inputs)

13	Favored No Alternative
26	Favored Alternative I
2	Favored Alternative I with modification
34	Favored Alternative II
1	Favored Alternative II, Part A
9	Favored Alternative II with modification
38	Favored No Prospecting
3,801(97%)	Favored Wilderness Designation before Prospecting and that Prospecting be done by the Federal Government

PADDY CREEK WILDERNESS
-Public Response Results
Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The Forest Service, Mark Twain National Forest issued the document in April 1980 outlining three alternatives for wilderness designation or non-wilderness. The public was asked to respond by June 30, 1980.

ALTERNATIVES	WILDERNESS Min. Dev.	NON WILDERNESS Max. Dev.	NON WILDERNESS Mod. Dev.
RESPONSES			
IN STATE			
Local	15 inputs (96 signatures)	45 inputs (188 signatures)	4 inputs (4 signatures)
Non-Local	176 inputs (1,860 signatures)	5 inputs (5 signatures)	5 inputs (7 signatures)
OUT STATE	24 inputs (25 signatures)	0	0
TOTALS	215 inputs (78%) 1981 sigs. (90.5%)	50 inputs (18%) 193 sigs. (9%)	9 inputs (3%) 11 sigs. (.5%)

OZARK GRAPHIC

Royce-Lipps Publishing Company

Bill Royce · Merlyn "Rocky" Royce · Ken Lipps

National Monthly Magazine
Local Weekly Newspaper
Commercial - Legal Photography

Box 56, Doniphan, Mo. 63935 314-996-2340

OZARK GRAPHIC

May 18, 1982

Congressman and Senator

Sir:

This is to advise I would appreciate favorable action from you with regard to setting aside the 17,000-plus acres in the Irish Wilderness area of southern Missouri for protection under the Congressional Wilderness Act.

My late mother was born and raised in the Irish Wilderness and was of Irish descent. The old Keathley farm is now part of the U. S. Forest Service. My family and I presently reside on a small farm just a few miles from the proposed wilderness area and during her last visit, before she passed away, I asked my mother her opinion about the wilderness preservation concept. She approved of it almost tearfully.

She would have been 82 this year.

I also approve of the idea that our nation must begin to restore wilderness. My father of Wyandotte-Huron descent often warned to always take from the earth without giving in return is unnatural. Our constant taking has led us to where we are today. In trouble.

Sincerely

Bill Royce

Bill Royce

April 26, 1982

Senator Thomas Eagleton
1209 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Eagleton,

On behalf of the Hibernians, I would like to thank you for introducing S-1964 to add the Irish Wilderness to the national wilderness system.

Our organization feels this legislation would provide lasting protection to a significant Irish-American cultural resource. The history of this area is an important segment of the history of the Irish people in Missouri, and its preservation would be a tribute to one of their great leaders, Bishop John Joseph Hogan.

Thanks again, and if we can be of assistance toward the passage of this legislation, please let us know. Hopefully your fellow Missouri Senators, Congressmen, and state officials can render their support as well.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Putnam J

Charles W. Putnam Jr.
Missouri State Vice President
Ancient Order of Hibernians

cc: Senator John Danforth
Representative Harold Volkmer
Representative William Clay
Representative Robert Young
Representative Richard Gephardt
Governor Christopher Bond
Secretary of State James Kirkpatrick

SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY
65102

JAMES C. KIRKPATRICK

May 6, 1982

Good morning Brother Putnam:

We appreciate your kind thoughtfulness in sending a copy of your letter to Senator Eagleton in support of S-1964 which he introduced.

We wish you every success in this very worthy project.

Cordially,

James C. Kirkpatrick

Honorable Charles W. Putnam, Jr.
585 Yorkshire
Florissant, Missouri 63033

ps

TESTIMONY ON HR 5686

May 24, 1982
House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks
Rep. John Sieberling, Chairman

The Conservation Federation of Missouri, a private statewide organization of 27,000 sportsmen, outdoor recreationists, and conservationists, supports passage of HR 5686.

For many years the Federation has supported inclusion of the "Irish Wilderness" in Oregon County into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Indeed, we were one of the first organizations to urge protection of this unique area.

After recent review and careful study by our Board of Directors and discussion at our Annual Meeting, we reiterate our position that the "Irish" more than any other Missouri area, should be added to the system to protect its wilderness character.

For Missourians the "Irish" symbolizes wilderness; and wilderness preservation efforts in the state will not be complete until it becomes part of the system.

The Irish is also the largest potential wilderness area in Missouri, comprising over 17,000 acres, and this, its size, along with its great diversity, and its aesthetic, historical, natural, and cultural values, beg for the additional protection provided by the national wilderness preservation system.

Fortunately, nearly all of the land involved is already in public ownership. It belongs to the people, and we believe the people desire this added protection to preserve this shining example of the Missouri Ozark Highlands.

We ask for your support for this bill.

U. S. Forest Service
Missouri Wilderness Areas
(RARE II)

This letter was sent to the following: Senators Eagleton and Danforth; Congressmen Clay, Young, Gephardt, Skelton, Bolling, Coleman, Taylor, Ichord, Volkmer and Burlison

March 1, 1979

The Honorable John C. Danforth
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Danforth:

I would like to bring to your attention the Missouri Department of Conservation's position on the RARE II wilderness and study areas proposed for Missouri by the U. S. Forest Service. I understand comment about these proposals is now being solicited from members of the Congress.

Following an extensive review of the proposal during the summer of 1978, we recommended to the U. S. Forest Service that the Irish Wilderness and Piney Creek areas receive Wilderness designation. The final Environmental Impact Statement and the U. S. Forest Service recommendations to Secretary of Agriculture Bergland did recommend Piney Creek, but placed a FURTHER STUDY category on the Irish Wilderness. The Commission supports Wilderness designation for the Irish Wilderness because of its high quality and exceptional size, it being the largest roadless area in the state. There are few intrusions and limited evidence of recent human activity.

Department staff also will be conducting field studies of other potential wilderness sites as they are brought to our attention. I would be happy to provide such information as we may have on these or other Missouri wilderness study areas.

Your interest in Missouri's natural resources is appreciated.

Sincerely,

LARRY R. GALE
DIRECTOR

cc: Conservation Commissioners
Mr. Saults

bcc: Assistant Directors
Fisheries, Forestry, Wildlife, Natural History, Information

LRG:GTC:jct

For the Record

Right The First Time

The U.S. Forest Service decided in 1979 that the Irish Wilderness in southern Missouri qualified for federal protection as a wilderness, but now proposes to let the area be explored for lead and other minerals. So the St. Joseph Minerals Co. has applied for a permit to begin sinking test holes. That could be the end of the wilderness.

A number of conservation groups allied as the Missouri Wilderness Coalition believes as much, with good reason. In the past, companies that found minerals on public lands have usually been allowed to mine them. Federal officials insist that there are safeguards in leasing land to mining companies. But John Karel, director of Missouri's Division of Parks and Historic Preservation, sees it differently. He says he is not aware of any precedent where a prospecting find was followed by denial of an application to mine. "The public is kind of left out of the decision," he adds.

That, and not the testing by itself, is the point. Wilderness Coalition spokesmen point out that if the government itself tested the area, then the public would be allowed to balance the need for mining against the need for keeping the forest intact. Certainly the public should not be left out of this decision. The 17,500-acre section of the Mark Twain National Forest known as the Irish Wilderness belongs to the public. It is the largest single area left in Missouri that qualifies as wilderness. It ought to be protected until Congress officially gives it that designation. The Forest Service was right the first time. The agency should reconsider private mining tests.

Wed., Dec. 2, 1981 15A
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Irish Wilderness

The Irish Wilderness in southeast Missouri is one of the few unspoiled areas left in this state. By definition, that makes it an attractive plum for those who want to cut, graze and rip up the land on the last virgin acre left on earth. In many ways the Irish Wilderness is typical of the Ozark beauty—rolling, wooded hillsides, steep valleys and abundant wildlife—that once covered a vast region of America.

Because of its unusual beauty and diversity, pressures have been mounting for more than a decade to include the Irish Wilderness in the U.S. Wilderness Preservation System. Other than the necessary congressional decision, no serious problems are posed. The public already owns the land, which is a part of Mark Twain National Forest. A federal environmental impact study is under way and it should be completed before the end of this year.

While it is impossible to predict the outcome of that report, it is expected the scales will weigh heavily on the side of preservation because of the unique features of that region. In the meantime, the St. Joe Minerals Corp., a New York firm, is seeking a permit to prospect. If one should be granted, other companies are expected to join the parade.

In a state of almost 70,000 square miles, it is difficult to see why the Irish Wilderness, which contains only 17,500 acres, cannot be left as it is. The case for prospecting, or tearing up the land if you prefer, is further weakened by the fact that few minerals have ever been discovered in that region. Nothing should be done until the impact statement is ready. After that, it would take overwhelming evidence to the contrary to show why the Irish Wilderness should be opened for unlimited exploitation—and in the process be destroyed.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

Founded September 18, 1880, by William Rockhill Nelson

JAMES H. HALE, President and Publisher
MICHAEL J. DAVIES, Editor
JAMES W. SCOTT, Editor, Editorial Page

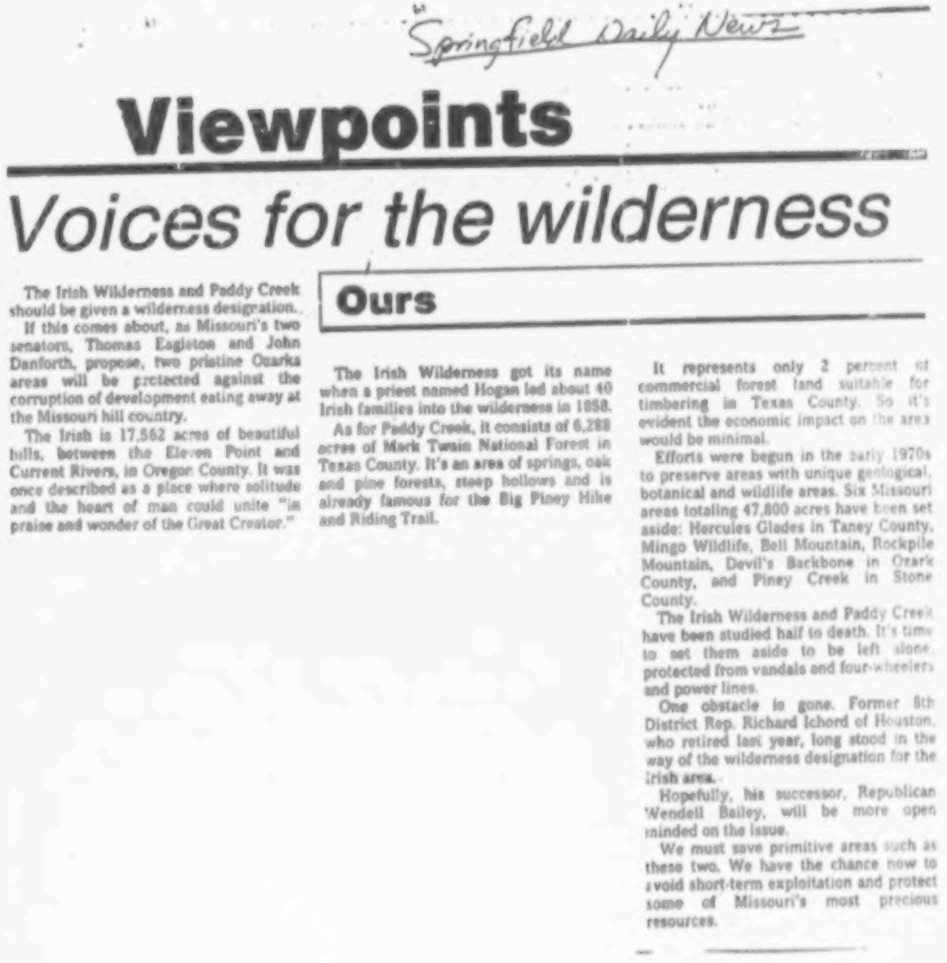
Member of the Associated Press.

The Associated Press exclusively is entitled to use for republication all local news published herein as well as all AP dispatches.

(Copyright, The Kansas City Star Co., 1981)

Vol. 101, Wednesday, February 11, 1981, No. 126

A Capital Cities Communications, Inc., Newspaper



"Springfield Daily News"

Viewpoints

Voices for the wilderness

The Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek should be given a wilderness designation.

If this comes about, as Missouri's two senators, Thomas Eagleton and John Danforth, propose, two pristine Ozarks areas will be protected against the corruption of development eating away at the Missouri hill country.

The Irish is 17,562 acres of beautiful hills, between the Eleven Point and Current Rivers, in Oregon County. It was once described as a place where solitude and the heart of man could unite "in praise and wonder of the Great Creator."

Ours

The Irish Wilderness got its name when a priest named Hogan led about 40 Irish families into the wilderness in 1858.

As for Paddy Creek, it consists of 6,288 acres of Mark Twain National Forest in Texas County. It's an area of springs, oak and pine forests, steep hollows and is already famous for the Big Piney Hike and Riding Trail.

It represents only 2 percent of commercial forest land suitable for timbering in Texas County. So it's evident the economic impact on the area would be minimal.

Efforts were begun in the early 1970s to preserve areas with unique geological, botanical and wildlife areas. Six Missouri areas totaling 47,800 acres have been set aside: Hercules Glades in Taney County, Mingo Wildlife, Bell Mountain, Rockpile Mountain, Devil's Backbone in Ozark County, and Piney Creek in Stone County.

The Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek have been studied half to death. It's time to set them aside to be left alone, protected from vandals and four-wheelers and power lines.

One obstacle is gone. Former 8th District Rep. Richard Ichord of Houston, who retired last year, long stood in the way of the wilderness designation for the Irish area.

Hopefully, his successor, Republican Wendell Bailey, will be more open minded on the issue.

We must save primitive areas such as these two. We have the chance now to avoid short-term exploitation and protect some of Missouri's most precious resources.

The Irish Wilderness

Although it seems improbable in the last quarter of the 20th century, there is still a lovely, isolated and largely untouched area in Southeast Missouri, known as the Irish Wilderness. The name survives from the first settlers who went there well over a century ago. While most sections of Missouri were tamed long ago, civilization has left few scars there amidst the dense forests of oak and pine, the limestone outcroppings and the scores of springs and caves.

While no precise boundaries have been drawn for the Irish Wilderness, it is located to the southwest of Van Buren, between the valleys of the Current and the Eleven Point rivers. There are few roads and fewer people in that part of Missouri and the abundant wildlife easily outnumbers the inhabitants by 1,000 or 10,000 to one. It is an ideal location to become a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

In the last session of Congress, Sen. John C. Danforth, R-Mo., worked to win wilderness status for 17,500 acres between the Current and the Eleven Point. All of the property is already publicly owned, as a part of the National Forest Service. Our only quarrel is that 17,500 acres is too small. A persuasive case can be made for expanding the acreage to include a larger portion of the unspoiled natural beauty that remains there.

The 95th Congress adjourned before any action was taken on the Danforth plan. Now he promises to reintroduce the legislation early in 1979. Since all of the omnibus wilderness bills are a result of broad-scaled congressional compromises, some timely pressure by the senator — and Missouri — should be sufficient to get the job done. The Irish Wilderness has every qualification required for a national designation. Certainly there is enough land in Missouri to rip up and exploit without destroying one of the last genuine wildernesses remaining in this section of the United States.

today's bible verse

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God — Romans 12:2

Kansas City Times
December 28, 1978

K.C. STAR May 27, 1979

The Irish Wilderness

The only surefire way to guarantee that the lovely Irish Wilderness in Southeast Missouri is protected permanently from man-made inroads is for Congress to incorporate the land into the National Wilderness Preservation System. That would settle the matter once and for all. Anything short of that outcome leaves the area open for possible inroads, although none is contemplated at the moment.

There is one good safeguard. The property is already under federal ownership. But who knows what might happen in the future if policies are altered without full public awareness of that fact? It strikes us there is no need to take a chance, however remote that might be. Both Sen. John C. Danforth and Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton are fully committed to preservation, which provides a strong bipartisan base in the U.S. Senate. Other officials are just as adamant that the wilderness be set aside permanently. So why not get on the job and finish it?

Outdoorsmen, who know the area well, believe it is unique in this region of the United States. The terrain of hills and valleys is beautiful. The wilderness is rich in caves. Most of it is densely forested with pine and oak, providing a rich habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. Best of all, the mainstream of progress has passed it by because of its isolated location. Little damage has been done in the many decades since the Irish (hence the name) settled there prior to the Civil War.

Most of Missouri has been exploited, as the vast, almost unending forests were cut and the land plowed. That process continues at an alarming rate. But the Irish Wilderness has been spared — so far. It can be spared permanently, if Congress will get off dead center and confer on it the national status it deserves.

4D THE KANSAS CITY STAR Wednesday, May 25, 1977

'Rally 'Round the Irish' Is Newest Battle Cry

By Gary D. Warner
Outdoor Editor

The Outdoor Orbit

There is a place in Missouri, amid the raucous clutter of tourism strips at Lake of the Ozarks and Branson, which was once described like this:

"The quiet solitariness of the place seemed to inspire devotion. Nowhere could the human soul so profoundly worship as in the depths of that leafy forest, beneath the swaying branches of the lofty oaks and pines, where solitude and the heart of man united in praise and wonder of the Great Creator."

John Hogan wrote that. He was a young missionary priest in frontier Missouri who, disturbed at the plight of Irish immigrants, led 40 families to the land that nobody wanted—the rough, forested hollows between the Current and Eleven Point Rivers. There, in 1856, they fought the wilderness for a home.

They failed. During the Civil War the area was a natural hide-out for the marauders who ranged the Ozarks, and when it was over the settlers had disappeared, killed or scattered. They left behind their name. "The Irish Wilderness," people called it.

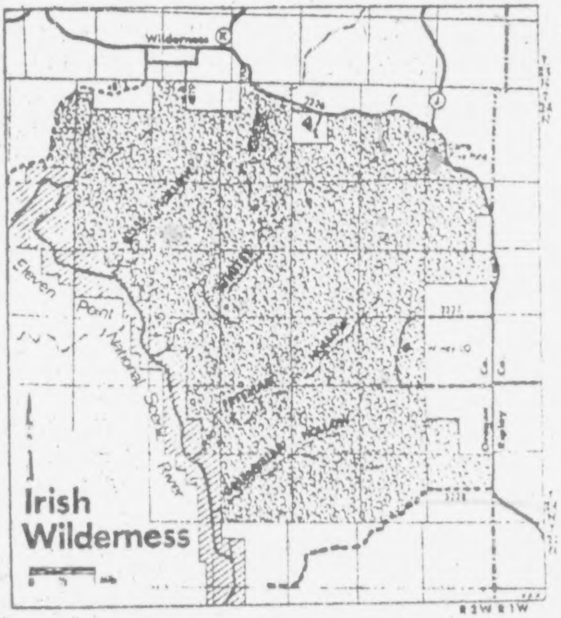
Those vanished people would recognize the conflict today over the land they tried to tame. But the effort now is to save it rather than civilize it.

The Irish Wilderness was left out of the federal legislation which last year created two much smaller wilderness areas in Missouri. Rep. Richard Ichord of the 8th Congressional District felt there could be lead deposits in the area, and Missourians gave in to salvage the rest of the package. They did not, however, forget.

Last month Sen. John C. Danforth introduced in the Senate S.1285, a bill to designate the Irish Wilderness as a unit of the National Wilderness System. Sen. Thomas Eagleton co-sponsored the bill, which would protect 17,562 acres of land—all except 242 acres already owned by the U.S. Forest Service.

Describing the area to the Senate, Danforth said, "Within the Irish Wilderness are numerous drainages, known in Missouri backland vernacular as hollows. These hollows start as little more than shallow washes in the upper woodlands of the wilderness area and meander throughout the wilderness, gradually deepening their valleys along the way until they reach a confluence with one of the rivers within the wilderness. Along these numerous hollows one will find caves to explore, springs to drink from and sinkholes to ponder."

Or take this description: "Small springs such as Fiddlers Spring and Bliss Spring emerge from dolomitic rock ledges in mossy grottoes. . .On some hillsides former spring outlets have been left high and dry by the downward cutting streams. Such entrances into the abandoned underground waterways form caves and the Irish Wilderness is shot through with them. Whites Creek Cave is the best known and is a good introduction to the underground Ozark world. Located high on the above-stream slope, the cave leads through large black chambers past typical cave formations—stalactites, stalagmites and columns." Or this one: "I will never forget the way my brother was introduced to the Irish Wilderness. We tied our canoe to a sycamore tree near the mouth of Whites Creek and proceeded to walk along a trail that led us to several large beaver ponds. . .A few hours later we were resting deep within the huge central chamber of Whites Creek Cave. Above us and nearly 400 feet away the afternoon sun found its way through an elliptical opening in the earth. The tree on the outside filtered the light like a stained-glass window, and the moisture in the cave created beams of light that gave every formation a delicate glow.



"Our trip to the Irish Wilderness helped to relieve the monotony of our workaday world. We were [illegible] of our natural heritage, [illegible] thankful for the opportunity to escape from the noise and congestion of our hometown."

The latter comment was made by Don Pierce, Midwest representative of Friends of the Earth. Recently, Pierce was named executive director of the Irish Wilderness Protective Association, an organization formed to work for the preservation of the area.

"The Irish," Pierce says, "is by far the most important symbol we have left of our original Missouri frontier. It is the last stronghold for every Missourian's pioneering spirit. We intend to defend this heritage."

Of the argument that the area should not be made wilderness because of the possible existence of lead deposits Pierce says, "It has yet to be proven. Even if lead is found, it would be in the country's best interest to conserve this non-renewable resource for a time when it will really be needed.

"Extensive lead deposits are already available to mining companies in southern Missouri. Almost all the Mark Twain National Forest is open to them. We don't think that the interests of the mining industry should be placed above that of the general public. Mining interests do not now need access to every last acre of land, particularly that which possesses the highest quality wilderness values in the state."

If Missourians demand it the Irish Wilderness can be saved from the mining industry and the chainsaw. Senators Danforth and Eagleton (Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510) need support for their bill. The Irish Wilderness Protective Association (931 East 7th Street, Rolla, Mo. 65401) needs members, too. And we all need the Irish Wilderness.

BULLETIN-JOURNAL, Cape Girardeau, Mo., Thurs., Jan. 7, 1982--Page 3

When is a wilderness not a wilderness?

Our lexicographers define a wilderness as any unsettled, uncultivated region left in its natural condition, especially a large tract of land covered with dense vegetation and forests ... a piece of land set aside to grow wild.

It seems a good explanation to me, considering our dictionary makers have very little space for their interpretations. However, for a proper definition, including all the aesthetic, spiritual and environmental aspects, a whole chapter or, perhaps, book would be needed.

I am on intimate terms with such regions, especially the Missouri Ozarks, those grand old mountains which long ago reared up high and mighty, but then, as if having had a glimpse of glory, settled down, content to reflect and impart that glory to those who walk the ridges, traverse the valleys, swing on a grapevine, cross a stream on a footlog. Walking the gentle, undisturbed, ancient hills or just knowing they are there to be walked is a valuable stone in the construction or reconstruction of a serene approach to life.

By

Jean Bell

Mosley

I can go into a quiet woods very depressed with worldly conditions, observe the stateliness of the oaks, the tenacity of pines [illegible] cedars, hear [illegible] of the woodland birds, call of the wild turkey, smell the good earth made sweet with mosses and fallen leaves, feel the orderliness and timelessness of it all, observe the absence of push and shove, get and spend, and come away quietly happy, feeling I have communed with the architect of ancient Eden.

David Grayson who dropped in his tracks in the middle of the great Rat Race says, when he had sought the quieter ways, "After the first hour (in the wild woods) all the worries dropped away, all the (unseemly) ambitions, all the twisted thoughts."

Thoreau says, "I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived ... I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life ... to drive life into a corner and reduce it to its lowest terms."

Listen to Archibald Ruthledge: "Once I watched a white chip whirled madly down the wild waters of a rain-filled trout stream. It raced toward me frantically; but a backwater eddy caught it, and quietly it floated into a little sheltered bay. We, too, ought to leave the mad current sometimes, to rest our hearts, and here it is too late, to muse upon the innocent beauty gleaming on the banks. If we do not so retire, how shall we ever be thrillingly pierced by the music of silence? How shall we hear the lustral music of tall, rustling corn? How shall we ever feel the pure, inevitable charm of the woods?"

Listen to Hal Borland: "And the environment, the land and air and water, achieves its own beauty and ever its hospitality for the human race by [illegible] left to organize itself and build [illegible] spiritual satisfactions."

Listen to me: "It was a spring day and I was walking alone in the mountains surrounding our homestead, noting the Dutchmens Breeches, the dogtoothed violets, the fiddlehead ferns playing their elfin melodies in tune with the water harps of the wet weather rivulets. I thought I knew all these mountains' secrets at all seasons, but, suddenly I glimpsed something white through the scrub oak, sour gum, and cedar I'd never noticed before. I parted the underbrush and came out into a small clearing no bigger than our barn loft. There, standing in the center, untouched, unshaded by any other growing thing, was a wild plum tree in full and luxuriant bloom. It was a'hum with bees. An artist skilled in symmetry, grace and eye-focusing detail could not have improved on the tree. I walked all around it, marveling at the setting - a wild plum tree miles away from a like kind, set in the little clearing as a jeweler would meticulously set a precious diamond ... I sat down on a nearby outcropping to see and to think. A gentle breeze sent perfumé in my direction. The great ball of blossoms was like a giant handful of Irish corchet lace thrown against the blue sky. I don't know how long I sat there, but after a while it was as if I were not along - an unseen but hauntingly, ineffable, pulsating presence seemed to be there beside me, seeing the tree with me, delicately lifting little limbs here and there as if to show all the facets of a perfect handiwork..."

Well, some think that Thoreau is not for out times, that it is foolishness to dwell on his statement that "In wildness is the preservation of the world." Some think that Rutledge's statement, "Nature is the art of God; and to enter this stupendous gallery of living masterpieces, all one needs is a willing and sensitive heart," is no longer valid because we do not have readily at hand these stupendous galleries. But we do. However, it is necessary, from time to time, to rise up and shout to private industries which look with longing eye at the forests and possibly hidden minerals, "Hands off! This is where we come for renewal. This is primeval. This is one of our last remaining connections to our beginnings!"

Missouri has generous spots of solitude where great and humble pleasures can be enjoyed. Some of them, such as the Mark Twain and Clark National Forests have come under the protection of the Federal Government which can throw its mighty weight behind the peoples plaintive shout, "Hands off!"

Sometimes we need to go further, hone the safekeeping to a finer point, bring places under the even more protective disignation of Wilderness Area. Such a current place needing this additional preservation is the Irish Wilderness that place of dreams and fancy between the Eleven Points and Current rivers where Leprechauns and Anglo-Saxon ghosts traipse the woods by night and sleep in bluebells and trumpet blossoms during the day.

A wilderness is not a wilderness when contaminated by core-drilling for hard rock minerals (for what follows positive core-drilling but mining?), where raw ruts are cut again into the happy woodland floor, when machinery smoke clouds the outward and inner vision and stops the ears to the enchanting melody of the Pipes of Pan?

REJOICE!

ST. JOSEPH, MO., GAZETTE, WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1982

Missouri wilderness boosters to voice views

The Outdoor Beat

Bill Bennett

MISSOURI'S OUTDOOR WILDERNESS needs a protective shield and environmental leaders throughout the state are asking Congress for help.

Representatives of Missouri outdoor groups plan to send a contingent to Washington May 24 and May 27 to urge passage of legislation that would give needed protection to Paddy Creek and the Irish Wilderness, two areas of special outdoor offerings in our state.

Getting the federal stamp of wilderness status means the outdoor sites cannot be damaged by activities such as massive timber cutting or mining projects, explained Greg Iffrig, member of the Missouri Wilderness Coalition.

"This looks like the best chance we've had in ten years to get wilderness status for [illegible] Missouri [illegible] tion the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club. The Missouri Conservation Federation, your St. Joseph [illegible] Society and the Missouri Prairie Foundation are groups strongly supporting wilderness designation for Paddy Creek and Irish," Iffrig said.

"We want as many as possible to attend the congressional committee hearings the latter part of this month in Washington. Our Missouri congressmen have been working for wilderness status and this is a good chance to convince the sen[illegible] and house sub-committee members that we must have that vital protection.

"Sponsors of the wilderness bills in the Senate are Senators Thomas Eagleton (D-Mo.) and John Danforth (R-Mo.). Sponsors in the House of Representatives are Harold Lee Volkmer (D-Mo.) from the ninth congressional district and William L. Clay (D-Mo.) of the first Missouri congressional district," Iffrig added.

[illegible] Missouri Wilderness Coalition, 25 Bearfield Road, Columbia, Mo., 65201.

Senator Eagleton reported at a recent appearance in St. Joseph that the wilderness bills are on "hold."

The Missouri delegation hopes to get the legal process moving again.

Wilderness status protects from destructive development, also restricts motorized travel, preserving outdoor sites essentially unaltered.

"It sets aside these valuable areas for outdoor enjoyment and appreciation — a primitive-type of outdoor experience," Greg explained.

"Paddy Creek [illegible] in the south-central Ozark region. The Irish Wilderness includes [illegible] acres in Oregon County in southeast Missouri.

"Irish is rated as the highest quality of wilderness-type outdoors in the state," the dedicated outdoor booster pointed out.

When the two regions receive wilderness designation, it will complete efforts started in 1973 to preserve regions of Missouri with unique geological, botanical and wildlife features.

And that achievement would be a milestone in Greg's outdoor goals.

The soft-spoken young man from Jefferson City speaks loudly when it comes to outdoors — his chosen field.

He lived in the wilderness areas during part of his Missouri University studies, searching for remnants of natural grass sites among the small portions that remain of vast natural prairies that once covered our state.

[illegible] Missouri [illegible] natural grass area at [illegible] Park, the scenic river bluff park on the west side of St. Joseph.

The small natural grass area was set aside for viewing and study by a former city park and recreation director, Larry Elder, after he conferred with Greg and other concerned outdoor people in St. Joseph.

The site is used for field trips as a rare sample of prairie grass on a loess hill over looking the Missouri River — a scene from Missouri's rich outdoor history.

The loess hills, formed during the glacial periods, are a unique feature of our river bluffs in this part of the state. So are the natural grasses, such as Indian grass and blue stem, which sent their roots deep to seek moisture and also served as wildlife cover, food and a curb on soil erosion.

Prairie grasses are making a popular and beneficial comeback as land owners learn the value of natural grasses as added pasture feed supply.

"Native grasses [illegible] flourish while other plants wither in the hot summer months."

Greg spent an entire summer scouring the river bluff hills from Weston, south of St. Joseph, to Brickyard Hill Wildlife Area in Atchison County, north of Rock Port.

He found, among several fragile areas, a unique loess hill prairie site on on the McCormack Wildlife Area, south of Mound City, also calling it to the attention of prairie fans.

Greg's knowledge and appreciation of the outdoors is respected throughout Missouri.

Concerned outdoor people should heed his rally request to preserve our state's vital wilderness regions — for both animals and human needs.

Protected outdoor areas give us, and future nature lovers, that need to unwind from everyday pressures — mental and physical.

And they provide vital stretching room for wildlife, which is steadily being backed into small outdoor corners by highways, housing developments and intensive farming.

We all need need that vital outdoor breathing room.

The Pioneer Priest

By Mary Ellen Woods

BALLADS AND POEMS, along with equally poetic and idealistic emigration journals, urged many mid-19th century Europeans to the shores of America. They placed ads in newspapers, saying they were looking for "situations"—jobs such as gardeners or servants, but that was only part of what they came for. They came looking for something their old lives could not give them—riches, adventure, political and religious freedom.

When the Irish came to America asking for some way to make a living, they were often met with the attitude of "No Irish Need Apply." They came looking for a new start after years of poverty from the devastating potato famine. Often, they left Ireland with sadness and tears and arrived in America to discover the only job available was hard labor. Many worked on the railroad as it inched its way toward the West. But they held on to their hopes no matter where they ended up, for the Irish are a people full of dreams.

John Joseph Hogan, a boy from Limerick, was one of those dreamers. Unlike many others in Ireland, he had escaped poverty and famine in a happy childhood of games and schooling, marred only by his mother's death when he was 14. It was always assumed that John would become a priest, and he was happy with this. He had read of the Eastern missionaries with interest, but even more exciting was the Catholic Almanac that spoke of America.

Fusing his desires for service and adventure, John decided to go to America to become a priest. If you read about Bishop Hogan—for in the end he became Bishop of the Kansas City Diocese—you'll find two things made up his life. One was his service to the Irish people who made it to Missouri and to others he met along the way. The other was a series of adventures just like those that befell any pioneer in a wilderness.

In 1848, when he was 19, John came to St. Louis and entered the seminary. He stayed in the area after his ordination but soon resigned from St. Michael's parish in order to travel to Missouri's interior, where there were no priests.

On his first exploratory trip, Hogan hadn't been traveling long when he encountered a problem that faces anyone new and different. He was riding along the Chariton River in Randolph County when

> I was overtaken by a well dressed young man, mounted on an elegant horse in bright trappings. Telling him that I was a priest seeking a location for a church, he said, "There are no Catholics here, what then is the use for a church." Seeing he was prejudiced and displeased with my purpose I replied, "True, sir, there are no Catholics here now, but they will be here before long, and you and I may live to see the day when there will be a Catholic church on every hill around here." "Yes," said he, "when the Chariton goes upstream, goodbye."

HOGAN FACED MOST problems just like that, with a sense of humor and an understanding of human nature. What he would not laugh off, though, was any situation in which another person suffered, and as he traveled further into Missouri, he had plenty of exposure to this. Several times he ran into camps of the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad. The names of the workers—Murphy, Mulholland, Griffen, Shea—reminded him of home. Their poverty was also reminiscent of Ireland, the part of Ireland they had wished to escape.

After seeing the conditions that many he met lived in, Hogan returned to St. Louis and reported that he wanted to continue working in Missouri's frontiers. One friend thought he was being "visionary" (the friend's polite way of saying "crazy") and tried to drag him off the train. Hogan escaped.

Where the trains did not go, Hogan [illegible] horse. He traveled through Jefferson City and Brunswick to a town called Center Point, so named because area residents thought it would become the city due to its location. The town consisted of a two-room log building, "[illegible] the influence of the speculative fever [illegible] the place a name." Hogan bought the building, planning to live in one part and preach in the other.

After Hogan's first sermon, [illegible] different faith) invited him to dinner [illegible] consisted of squashes and [illegible] on the floor and chopped [illegible] like instrument. "If there were [illegible] knives or forks in the [illegible] called into use, the etiquette in vogue [illegible] time, as I supposed, not requiring [illegible]," Hogan wrote.

AFTER HIS NERVOUS FIRST sermon and the less than normal [illegible] Hogan wanted to do when he got [illegible] sleep. Under his house, however, [illegible] crawlspace that filled with water and [illegible] be "a delightful retreat to the hogs [illegible] neighbors. Throughout the night they [illegible] and groaned, until finally the "king [illegible] ed his head up through the floor. That night Hogan slept in the woods, and the next day he moved to the railroad workers' shanty [illegible] His friends built him a shelter, and [illegible] he became "a shanty priest."

"I became suspicious of Center Point," he wrote, "it was not much of a place, was [illegible] be the Center Point...."

So, once again, he set out to find a place in the wilderness for a church. Hogan finally decided to settle in Chillicothe, and again he showed his sense of humor and understanding of human nature. As soon as people knew a priest was in town, they became curious to see what one really looked like.

After they saw Hogan, the people's next craze was to see him in his vestments. People tried to guess which church would let the priest share its building, but all the churches made it clear that they would not. Then James Darlington, the local newspaper's outspoken editor, began publishing editorials denouncing the townspeople for their intolerance. When this did no good, he got use of the courthouse for Hogan's Masses, which he attended every week.

MISSOURI LIFE December '81 27

Not long after that, John Graves, Chillicothe's oldest citizen and the area's first settler, donated land for the church. It was built complete with stained glass windows, but they didn't last long, for "a rather too warm sermon from the fervid young missionary against forbidden secret societies brought the gentlemen of grips and signs to visit his chapel at the midnight hour."

While the church was being built, Hogan continued to travel throughout the area, hoping to find more of the Irish settlers he had seen before. He went to Sullivan County, thinking from the name that he would find his Irish. Instead, he was shot at by drunken men as he rode through. Continuing on, though, he found what he had expected.

In one cabin, an Irish woman was near death and unable to care for her children. Her husband was working on the railroad and didn't even know that she was sick. In another cabin, Hogan administered last rites to a woman who died soon after giving birth to twins. The twins died within minutes. In Mirabile, he said Mass for a family who said they could not come to Mass publicly for fear of losing work.

THE HORRORS THAT had forced so many to leave Ireland were recurring across the ocean. In Ireland, however, even through all the trouble, one had one's family. Here, through necessity, families were often separated. The men would work on the railroads while the women, left behind, worked as domestics in the cities.

Spurred on by what he saw, Hogan began searching for land that the people could buy and live on with their families. Going north, he found that the land was too expensive, $10 to $20 an acre. In November 1857, Hogan and Father James Fox looked again and found 480 acres just north of the conflux of Tenmile and Cane creeks near Poplar Bluff that sold for 12½ cents to $1.25 an acre. But all the land had been sold by the time Hogan could return.

He settled for land 40 miles to the west and through a land agent began selling it to the Irish immigrants. These people gave the area between Alley Spring and Doniphan in south Missouri the name we know it by: the Irish Wilderness.

Hogan directed the settlement and visited it often. To him, it was Eden-like. The people were simple, honest folk who were finally getting the fresh start they had searched for. They lived purely, but they liked their fun, often having "a morning dram or a drop with a friend, from the keg of the best." They had found a home. "Willing hands and humble hearts made the one-room log cabin a sacred place and a happy home."

Hogan would have liked to stay in the settlement, but the lack of priests forced him to go back to Chillicothe. "Poor bird of passage that I was, to face northward and out of season, against cold wintry blasts," he wrote.

Compared to the happy existence in the settlement, what faced Hogan were often "cold wintry blasts." At the time, a circuit rider named Tim Deeres was traveling the country preaching the dangers of the Catholic Church. Hogan calmly explained the things which Deeres did not understand. Then the Civil War began, and not even Hogan's Irish Eden was untouched.

The wilderness settlement was surrounded by the war and was used as a rest area by both sides. The Irish settlers vanished, but no one knows why. One legend says they fled into the night. More probably, they were murdered by bushwhackers. The only one who escaped was a young man who had joined the guerrillas.

Hogan was unusually quiet about the destruction of his dream, asking only, "Who now will build those wastelands?" Years later, on a trip back to Ireland, he witnessed the same kind of scene. Going to the places he had known as a child, he found only ruins:

> ...gone, gone, gone! Ah, who will say that this world does not change or that those who were young do not grow old? Ah, my poor heart was sore. There I stood, alone, alone! Those that I had loved—they were not there!

Because he was "a poor bird of passage," Hogan escaped the fate of the settlers, but his life during the war was far from tranquil. Missouri was in a state of hysteria and schizophrenia, with brothers fighting brothers.

IN THE WAR'S FINAL months, Hogan faced one of the most trying times of his life. On April 1, 1865, the state legislature passed a law requiring priests to take a test oath before they would be allowed to preach. Hogan's superiors urged civil disobedience. Sixty days later, when the law took effect, Hogan preached four sermons. A warrant came out for his arrest.

"There is an old saying, that to cook a hare you must catch him first. I was the hare. The Missouri Radicals no doubt intended to cook me," Hogan wrote. Rather than peacefully submit to the law, he continued to minister to his people. He remembered that one of his congregation had a husband with a drinking problem, and when the husband was dragged to jail, he kicked the sheriff. His wife yelled to him, "Michael, Michael, go daycint, go daycint!" Father Hogan decided also not to go "daycint."

His situation was even more absurd because the county's sheriff often attended Mass with his wife, who was Catholic and a choir member. Drury McMillan, the deputy, was also a member of the choir and a good friend of Father Hogan. The sheriff finally had to do his duty, and he sent Drury to bring the [illegible] to jail. Hogan gamely accepted what was coming.

As Drury approached, unwillingly, Hogan called out cheerily, "Drury dear, how [illegible] and why are you so grave and serious [illegible]"

"Have you not heard the bad news?" Drury asked, and he told Hogan what [illegible] already knew. Hogan asked Drury to [illegible] moment, and he went [illegible] dressed in his full canonical [illegible] carried a Bible in one hand and [illegible] other. Drury was ashamed to arrest [illegible] Hogan joked with him to make it [illegible]

Crowds gathered by the side of the [illegible] watch them, and Hogan remembered [illegible] calling out, "Oh, Lor' have mercy [illegible] Father Hogan going to jail, and [illegible] McMillan has him prisoner."

Before Hogan's trial, the case of [illegible] Cummings of Pike County was [illegible] the law was shown to be illegal [illegible] Hogan was set free.

HOGAN CONTINUED [illegible] through Missouri, serving parishes [illegible] including Mexico, [illegible] Macon, Brookfield and Cameron. [illegible] was appointed Bishop of the [illegible] Diocese, and in 1880, when a new [illegible] created in the Kansas City [illegible] named Bishop of that district.

In 1913, when he died, he was the [illegible] bishop in the country and probably [illegible] most traveled. In his last days, Hogan [illegible] back on his youthful work in [illegible] wilderness.

> When I became a Catholic missionary in Northern Missouri in September, 1857, there were in that part of the state thirty-two counties in a contiguous body of land, perhaps the finest in the world, having sixteen thousand square miles, being one and a half times as large as Belgium, and half as large as Ireland.

> ...I will never get over this. My body has grown old in my work and will not outlast this illness, and my usefullness is ended. I have seen the great Missouri wilderness grow into a strong territory and my church kept pace with the development, and I am pleased.

Because of immigrants and dreamers [illegible] John Joseph Hogan, who weren't afraid [illegible] a few miles in the country," Missouri [illegible] made richer. They built the towns, they [illegible] the railroads, but even more, they left [illegible] legends.

Springfield Daily News

Ah, Wilderness!

The Irish in us says preserve it

THE Preservation People and the Development People probably will meet head-on again next year over the fabled Irish Wilderness of south central Missouri.

Sen. Jack Danforth said this week he plans to reintroduce a bill when the new Congress convenes in January to designate the Irish Wilderness in Oregon County as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. The last Congress adjourned — much to the Missouri Republican's (and our) regret — before a similar bill could be acted upon in 1978.

The Irish Wilderness — named for the Irish who settled the area in the mid 19th Century — is a land of rare beauty, a place to behold, a virtually untouched parcel to be preserved for all.

A 17,500-acre, almost roadless tract in an undeveloped national forest area, the Wilderness lies in the drainage area of two of our state's most scenic rivers, the Eleven Point and the Current.

Its bucolic beauty lies in its deep hollows, its dense forests, its cave-pocked bluffs, its meandering clear streams, its abundant animal life.

As Sen. Danforth points out, the Irish Wilderness also is steeped in history, folklore and legend. "Many stories are told of courageous settlers, backwood stills and marauding guerillas that frequented the area during the Civil War," adds the senator.

The war to win the Wilderness is not over.

Opposition to the Wilderness preservation proposed in Danforth's bill undoubtedly will be heavy and quite vocal. Timber interests already have entered the battle, pointing out quite correctly that wilderness areas cannot be lumbered. But, explains Danforth, only one-half of one percent of all commercially available timber in Missouri lies within the Irish Wilderness.

The major controversy, however, apparently concerns the possibility that commercially valuable lead deposits might be discovered in the Wilderness — despite the fact that there is no evidence extant that valuable minerals are located there.

What the timber and mineral interests seem to ignore is the fact that Congress can remove a wilderness designation if public interest so demands.

"In other words," says Sen. Danforth, "areas preserved in their natural state always can be developed later."

What should never be forgotten by Missourians, by Ozarkers in particular, is that once an area is developed, it can never return to its natural state.

In our opinion, the assets far outweigh the liabilities in any argument over the the Irish Wilderness.

It should be preserved.

Missouri's
environment
Published Monthly by the
Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Vol. 1 No. 1 Jefferson City, Missouri January 1977

Missouri's Environment is the official publication of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources published monthly to keep the public informed about programs and activities of the department. Editorial offices are in the Office of Public Information, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, [illegible] P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (314) 751-[illegible]. All changes of address and correspondence should be sent to this office. Reproduction of material encouraged.

JOSEPH P. TEASDALE Governor

KENNETH M. KARCH Acting Director, Missouri Department of Natural Resources

DNR DIVISION DIRECTORS

JAMES P. ODENDAHL Acting Director, Division of Environmental Quality
WILLIAM K. WIGHT Director, Division of Parks and Recreation
WALLACE B. HOWE Director, Division of Geology and Land Survey
FRED A LAFSER, JR., Acting Director, Division of Planning and Policy Development
ROBERT C. HAAKE Director, Division of Administrative Services

EDITOR

DONNA G. LOGAN Director of Information

Contributors to this issue: Nick Decker, Susanne Carter, Debora Burgess, Barbara Harris, Don Kling, Jerry D. Vineyard

DNR CALENDAR

JANUARY

1 — New Year's HOLIDAY.
5 — 79th Missouri General Assembly reconvenes.
10 — Inauguration of Gov. Joseph P. Teasdale.
19 — Air Conservation Commission meeting, 9 a.m., Stouffer's Riverfront Inn, St. Louis.
27 — Clean Water Commission meeting, Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, Springfield.

FEBRUARY

1 — Soil and Water Districts Commission meeting, Jefferson City.
10 — Land Reclamation Commission meeting.
16 — Tentative meeting, Air Conservation Commission.
24 — Clean Water Commission meeting.

MARCH

16 — Air Conservation Commission meeting.

Irish Wilderness Preservation Urged

As the new Congress [illegible] session, DNR is [illegible] the Missouri [illegible] delegation to [illegible] wilderness area — the Irish — can be preserved through federal legislation.

In [illegible] President [illegible] signed an Eastern Wilderness Bill which gave immediate wilderness status to the 8,000-acre Mingo Wilderness in Wayne and Stoddard Counties and the 12,415-acre Hercules Glades Wilderness in Taney County. This means that no development — not even a road — can interfere with the natural integrity of these areas. They will be preserved for hiking, camping and nature study for all Missourians.

The new law also designates these four wilderness areas as study areas: Bell Mountain, 8,[illegible] acres in Iron County; Rockpile Mountain, 4,170 acres in Madison County; Paddy Creek, 6,888 acres in Texas County; and Piney Creek, 8,412 acres in Barry and Stone Counties. These areas and Hercules Glades are within Mark Twain National Forest.

During the next five years the U.S. Forest Service will study these areas and report its findings to Congress. Alternate proposals to the U.S. Forest Service's recommendations may be presented by any organization, including state agencies such as DNR, according to John Karel. Congress will then have the final say on whether these areas should be given permanent wilderness status.

The largest wilderness area in the state, the Irish Wilderness, was not included in this landmark legislation. Eighth District Rep. Richard Ichord, re-elected in November, [illegible] making this area part of the wilderness system because he believes the area may have mining potential.

A pre-election survey taken by the Missouri League of Conservation Voters shows that at least four of Missouri's representatives to Congress feel positively about including the Irish Wilderness in the National Wilderness Preservation System — Reps. William Clay, Robert Young, Richard Gephardt and Richard Bolling.

Missouri's new U.S. Senator John Danforth also indicated he feels positively about the preservation of the Irish Wilderness. Missouri's senior U.S. Senator, Thomas Eagleton, has twice sponsored legislation to designate the Irish Wilderness as a wilderness area. In fact, the bills he sponsored would have made the area an instant wilderness had they passed.

DNR is hopeful that Danforth and Eagleton may be an effective force in pushing legislation during the coming session to preserve the Irish Wilderness.

Rep. Harold Volkmer was the only representative surveyed who indicated that he opposed the inclusion of the Irish Wilderness while the rest of the Missouri delegation failed to respond to the survey.

The Irish Wilderness, which lies in Oregon County and is flanked on the west by the Eleven Point River, was once the refuge of Irish immigrants who left their menial life in the railroad camps around St. Louis during the 1800's to build a better life in the undeveloped southeast Missouri region. This dream was never realized, however, as the wilderness provided hiding grounds for outlaws who robbed, raided and murdered the Irish immigrants who left only their name to the wilderness tract.

The essence of the wilderness was perhaps best captured by Father John Hogan, leader of the Irish immigrants, who wrote: "The spirit of Nature — or the place seemed to inspire devotion. Nowhere could the human soul so profoundly worship as in the depths of that leafy forest beneath the swaying branches of the lofty oaks and pines, where solitude and the heart of man united in praise and wonder of the Great Creator."

DNR supports protection of the tract so that these same values can continue to inspire generations to come.

ST LOUIS Globe DEMOCRAT Perspective

8B Wed. June 22, 1977

Leonard Hall

Names that are like the drops of amber . . .

Few areas in America have place names as interesting as those of our Ozark back country. As Missouri writer Ward Dorrance put it, if they are authentic place names, they will be alive; but also they will be like drops of amber in which the bright gnats of our past are caught and held.

The very name "Ozark" is a case in point. Back in the early 1800s, a trapper heading south from St. Louis to the land of the Arkansas Indians might reply, if asked his destination, "aux Arcs"—which is to say, "to the land of the Arkansas." And the English took the abbreviation and made a new word — Ozark.

One Missouri place name that has always intrigued us is the "Irish Wilderness." This magnificent forested area in southern Missouri is literally the corner-stone for the preservation of wilderness in Missouri. Thirty years ago, writing in "The Living Wilderness," we urged that the area be preserved. Now Senators Thomas E. Eagleton and John C. Danforth have introduced a bill (S. 1285) that would bring the Irish Wilderness into the National Wilderness Preservation System, an effort that deserves the hearty support of every Missourian.

IF YOU WISH TO visit the Irish Wilderness, you must drive south to Van Buren, west on Highway 60 for 10 miles to Fremont, then south on County J and County K to the tiny village of Wilderness. South of here lie 18,000 acres of unique and beautiful Missouri forest lands, bordered on their western boundary by the Eleven Point River, part of our National Wild River system.

Few negotiable trails traverse the Wilderness, but several drainages cross it from northeast to southwest, ending at the Eleven Point. Whites Creek is the only one with permanent flow, but the others—Bliss and Freeman and Greenbriar Hollows—gather water in pools which disappear into the gravel and eventually emerge again as small springs. Whites Creek boasts a cave of considerable size, and others may exist.

Although the original forest of giant pine and oak is long gone, the basic forest is thoroughly re-established. There are pine and hickory, and the variety of oaks is really amazing. These include white, chinquipin, shumard, scarlet, red, Spanish, blackjack and post oak. Botanically the area is as interesting as any in the Ozarks, with unusual species such as the dwarf crested iris, several orchids, thimbleweed, fire pink, blazing star, puccoon, cardinal lobelia and many others.

THE WILDERNESS, like most of the Ozark highlands, boasts the diversity of its wildlife, rather than the number of individuals of any species. Yet the deer and wild turkey are here in quantity. There are beaver in the Eleven Point. Fox, coyote, raccoon, oppossum are all here, as are members of the hawk and owl families and birds of many species. The Wilderness was probably the last stronghold of bear and cougar in Missouri.

Where did the name "Irish Wilderness" come from? In the 1850s, a young Irish priest named Father John Hogan became interested in the sorry lot of the immigrant Irish working in the railroad camps to the south and west of St. Louis. Determined to help these people, he searched for land where they might establish themselves and create a life in the New World. He found the land in the "piney woods" along the Eleven Point and led a group of 40 Irish families to homestead there. But the years of the Civil War brought raiders and outlaws, and the Irish families were scattered.

A few family names are still found in the area, but the land went back into forest and only the title "Irish Wilderness" remains. It is greatly hoped that we will make this one of the first true "wilderness areas" in Missouri where, as Father Hogan said, "solitude and the heart of man are united in praise of the Great Creator."

St. Louis Globe Democrat

Leonard Hall

[illegible]

Ozark winter

A lot of water has flowed down the Eleven Point River in our southern Ozarks since we first proposed in 1946 that Missouri create in this area her first national wilderness.

The proposal was made in "The Living Wilderness," magazine of the Wilderness Society, and the area was that section of the Mark Twain Forest known as the Irish Wilderness. As defined today, this embraces some 17,500 forested acres in Oregon County, bordered on the west by the Eleven Point River — now a wild and scenic national river.

The Irish Wilderness has a romantic history dating back to the 1850s. During those years a young Catholic priest named Father John Hogan secured a tract of land where he proposed to homestead a group of poor Irish immigrants who worked as laborers on the rail lines running out of St. Louis. But the Civil War started before the settlement was well established and the area was over-run by outlaws who raided and robbed and killed, eventually driving the settlers from their land. In the end nothing remained but the name Irish Wilderness and a small post office or two.

WE CAME TO KNOW the Wilderness well in the days when we floated the Eleven Point, "putting in" at the old Turner's Mill with its unique under-shot water wheel.

The Ozark highland is itself unique; perhaps the oldest land on our continent with much of it unglaciated and above the oceans for most of its two and a half billion years.

Unlike the St. Francois range with its pre-Cambrian granites and rhyolites, here we have limestones, dolomites and sedimentary shales formed beneath oceans and ancient rivers. Topographic maps show a rugged terrain of steep ridges and hollows running southwesterly toward the river and drained by White's Creek and deep hollows.

BECAUSE OF ITS CENTRAL location and extreme age, the Irish Wilderness boasts a rich and varied flora. Here are found good stands of oak and pine timber, a rich shrubbery understory and countless wildflowers. Some of all these are natives which evolved here. Others have moved in through the long centuries from north, south, east and west.

Missouri conservationists have long urged that the Irish Wilderness be preserved as perhaps our finest example of the Ozarks in a natural state. It is true that, as with all our original forest, the area has been logged, but today it is making a fine comeback. Several months ago Sens. Eagleton and Danforth co-sponsored Senate Bill 1285 designating 17,200 acres of the Irish Wilderness as a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Now Rep. Richard Gephardt of St. Louis has announced his intention to introduce similar legislation in the House of Representatives.

Today the Irish Wilderness Protective Association, a group including most of Missouri's leading conservationists, has been formed to work for passage of the legislation. It is hoped that all other conservation groups will join in the effort.

Beauty Vies With Loneliness

BY JOHN HALL

Editor's note -- John Hall is not what the average person might visualize when they hear the word, "writer." John is a big man. He stands well over six feet tall, weighing in at the 200-pound-plus mark. John's black hair and beard accentuates his denim shirt and jeans, and his boots indicate he normally should carry an axe and cross cut, rather than a typewriter case.

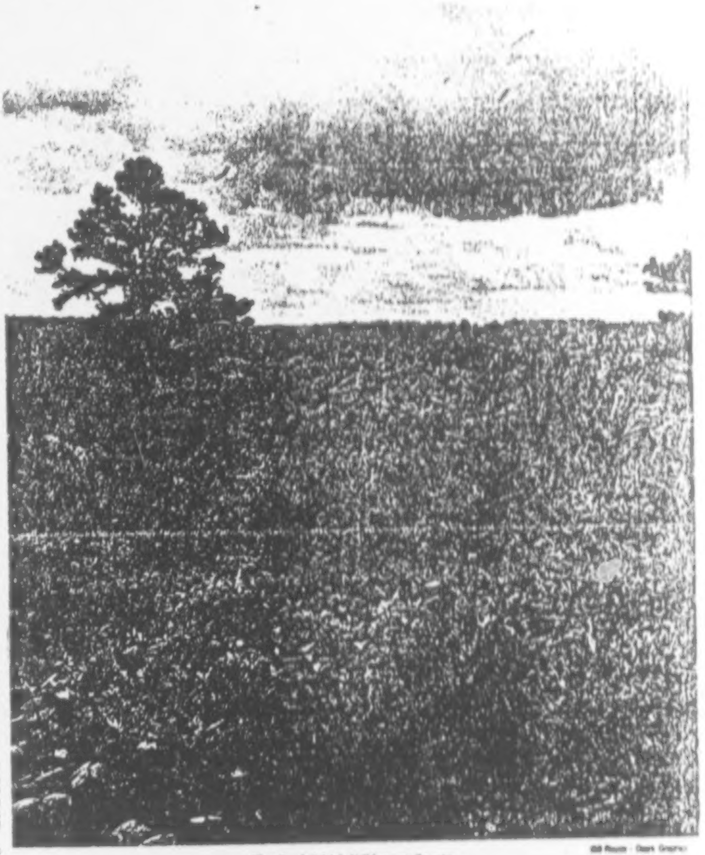
John comes by his writing naturally. John's father, Larry Hall, was Bureau Chief for Associated Press at the Missouri Capital, until his retirement, and Larry continues in the profession of words as press officer for the Missouri Senate, when he's not off fishing somewhere.

John, on the other hand, works a press beat only when he has to. In the meantime, his uniform remains that of the logger, and his beat is the countryside. He has chosen the farm and forest over the newsroom, and his material, while being printed in the same papers where his father's by-line is so familiar, does not very often make the front page. Instead, John's flair for adventure generally places him in the feature section.

John recently returned into our hills on assignment for the Kansas City Star to look at what many Ozarkians are coming to feel is our final remaining block of sizeable territory capable of making a man work to appreciate it. The Irish Wilderness country might someday regretfully be all that's left of an impressionable Ozarks forest.

John's Ozarks visit was not h's first, and it won't be his last. He sent his copy to us after it was used by the Star, with a note giving permission for Ozark Graphic to use it or pitch it.

Of course, we'll use it, John. In fact, just wrap up your wastebasket once in awhile, and send it on down. We'll be glad to get it. -- Editor.



The Ozarks' Irish Wilderness Country

Bill Roussin - Ozark Graphic

Wilderness, Mo.--The clear, clean sound of an Ozarks stream. Wind blowing through the pine. Logging trails wandering off the back roads into the forest.

Not far from here, just beyond the sound of a barking dog, the trail begins.

It was a great day--the kind of day you expect to feel a fine mist filtering down through the trees. The hardwoods were still bare. Wildflowers were just beginning to bloom. Through the thick forest you could see the first blooms of redbud, plum and cherry.

The pine trees were brilliant green against the gray sky.

The Irish Wilderness lies roughly in an area running south of U.S. 60 between the Eleven Point and Current rivers to somewhere near the Arkansas-Missouri line.

If you are standing on the summit above Whites Creek Cave looking down into Stillhouse Hollow, you are very close to the center of it all.

The Irish Wilderness takes its name from the dream of an Irish Catholic priest, John Joseph Hogan, who set out in mid-summer of 1857 to find a place for his people.

As a young priest in St. Louis, Father Hogan saw the terrible conditions his Irish parishioners had to endure living in railroad camps or working as servants.

"Profoundly impressed with these facts," Father Hogan wrote in his book, "On the Mission in Missouri," "it seemed to me to be my duty to do whatever might be in my power to aid these people to rise above their condition of servitude, to ownership and cultivation of land..."

After making three journeys from his parish in Chillicothe, Mo., through the rugged Ozarks country, Father Hogan settled on an area that has been called the Irish Wilderness ever since. It was government land then and could be purchased for 12½ cents to $1.25 an acre.

Only Remnants

Today much of the Irish Wilderness is part of the Mark Twain National Forest. All that remains of Father Hogan's settlement is the stump of a pine tree that stands in what the natives call "priest's field" near Pine, Mo., marking the site of the original church.

By 1859 several hundred Irish immigrants were in the wilderness area. The protection Father Hogan found for his people in this wilderness did not escape the Civil War. Confederate troops were to the south at Thayer. Union troops were garrisoned to the north at Rolla.

A letter from my great-grandfather, stationed at Rolla in 1834, says, "There is a right smart of excitement in this section of the country." History tells us the Civil War was bloody in the border states.

There is little detailed history of the Irish Wilderness. The most comprehensive record was put together in the early 1930's by Dan Cullimore, now retired from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and living in Arkansas.

Cullimore wrote in his excellent series of articles: "As to the Irish during those years of unchecked ravage, only two facts are definitely known. The first is that the settlement existed when the war broke. The second is that it had disappeared when the war ended."

What remains is the name and what lured Father Hogan here to begin with. "The quiet solitariness of the place seemed to inspire devotion. Nowhere could the human soul so profoundly worship as in the depths of that leafy forest beneath the swaying branches of lofty oaks and pines...where solitude and the heart of man united in praise and wonder of the Great Creator."

Today you can read about the Irish

(Continued on Page 101)

Ozark Graphic, Jun 1978, Page 11

Beauty Vies With Loneliness

(Continued from Page 5)

Wilderness. Or you can talk to the old-timers who have lived all their lives in these hills. Or you can follow the call of a logging trail and walk off into it.

Frightful Silence

A man thinks about many things walking alone for seven hours in the wilderness.

As I walked away from the last fence I would see the rest of the day, I took careful notice of the woods around me. Finally the silence begins to enter your mind and your soul, a silence so thorough you become a part of it.

> "As to the Irish during these years of unchecked ravage, only two facts are definitely known. The first is that the settlement existed when the (Civil) war broke. The second is that it had disappeared when the war ended."

But silence is only a resting place in the wilderness, a temporary visit in the climb that takes the slow, careful walker to the summit of an experience so pure it is at first frightening.

A man who walks all this alone in the forest comes finally to himself.

But there are some social considerations to be made along the way.

You begin with a compass and a map. The first time you stop and look back you realize that everything in a wilderness can look exactly the same.

"Never cross the ridge," the hill people tell you. "Just follow the valleys. They'll take you in or out of the woods."

I walked for an hour down the bed of a wet-weather creek. Occasionally I would come across the logging trail, but I stayed with its easy walking only as long as it followed the creek bed. I preferred to trust the signs of water flowing toward the river.

When I reached Whites Creek, I looked back. Even with compass, map and the first small trickle of water flowing down the rugged terrain, the word seized my mind. Lost. I was not lost, but only blind faith in the map and a faint lingering of some woods instincts kept down the panic.

I was lost once in the wilds of northern Minnesota. I have a deep respect for the possibility. And although I have been in woods like these on a regular basis since I was a boy, I am aware of all that the woods will tell me about where I am.

Going in, I had a vague notion about my destination and an inaccurate measure of how long it would take to get there. After two hours walking, I knew I had misjudged. My pocket watch ticked off the time I had already used against the hour of darkness.

No Water

It was here that I encountered thirst for the first time. The small trickle of Whites Creek had disappeared. I had come into this forest with some vague belief that a few hours would get me to Whites Creek Cave and back out again. I would have enough wilderness experience for this story. With that sort of blind optimism, I had walked into this wilderness without water.

It is that sort of reasoning by a man who has not walked in the woods alone for too long that gets a man lost. Somehow a winter sitting by the fire dreaming of the wilderness experience provides enough confidence for a man to abandon his good sense in the spring.

I stood thirsty after walking two hours. I listened for water and heard it everywhere as the wind mocked me blowing like a sea through the pine forest.

The map showed me Fiddler Spring about two-thirds of the way between where I began and Whites Creek Cave, my "halfway point." I was not yet two-thirds there. Two hours had passed. I turned to assess my retreat. I stood at the junction of three valleys. They all looked the same.

Now I could hear the chuckle of the hill people as they told me over the years, "Just don't cross the ridge." Of course. You don't ever have to cross the ridge if you wander back up the right valley.

I kept walking along the dry creek bed.

Hunger is never a real problem for those who eat too much. Put food up against thirst, and thirst wins. Put them both up against the feeling you may be lost and hunger disappears from memory. Your throat tightens with a quickening pulse. Thirst increases.

Only calm puts enough saliva back in your mouth to swallow.

If you relax and look at them, the wildflowers will bring you a measure of peace. Spring beauties are out this time of year. And bloodroot, another magnificent white flower so easy to see against the leaf mulch of winter.

The downy blue wild violet and the houstonias, or bluets, form soft carpets. Flying out of these blue flowers, I saw the season's first butterflies, common blues or spring azures. They were like flickers of sky. They lift your eyes and your spirits. Then you are looking at a redbud in full bloom.

The walk is easier for a ways. The soft patterns of lichen and moss with their greens and blues somehow soften the trail underfoot.

Whites Creek is flowing again. The beaver have been at it already this spring. The trail takes you past beaver dams that are more like stream-side hammocks in the crystal clear pools.

Bears Return

In the time of Father Hogan and his Irish followers, there were bear and panthers similar to mountain lions in these hills. More than 100 years have passed. Man has cut the trees and burned the woods and hunted the wild turkey and deer with loud weapons. But the bear is back—if it ever left.

Bill and Rocky Royce, publishers of the Ozark Graphic at Doniphan, live in the Mark Twain National Forest. Bill is a native. His mother was born, reared and buried on a farm near Wilderness, near these woods I have walked into. I had spent the night before at the Royce's cabin home. They have seen two black bear walk through their front yard. One was about 200 pounds by Bill's best judgment and a mark he eyed on a tree as the bear ambled across their gravel road.

> But when you stand in these woods, you don't question their existence. You listen for them. An unseen deer bolting through dry leaves is an intense listening experience.

The existence of bear is beyond dispute. And every once in awhile someone will come out of the woods saying he has seen a mountain lion. Bill writes about it in his weekly newspaper. Folks in town smile. Stories at the barbershop center around the fabled creatures.

But when you stand in these woods, you don't question their existence. You listen for them. An unseen deer bolting through dry leaves is an intense listening experience.

Climbing the steep trail, I came to Whites Creek Cave. The mouth of the cave is a carnival of color in the greens of lichen, moss and ferns. The cave opens onto the hillside about 180 feet above the valley of Whites Creek. Its mouth opens down steeply into darkness leading, perhaps, to the center of

"I did not go into the cave. I headed instead out over the valleys of the Irish Wilderness and resumed my climb to the summit above the cave.

As I gained the top, I stopped. My heart pounded in my head from the exertion of the climb. Three hours had gone. I was halfway into the wilderness from where I began, and at least three hours from getting out.

Bald Eagles

Suddenly a burst of white heads and tail feathers in the trees. One. Two. Three. Bald eagles. Did I really see them? I am holding my breath. I do not move. They are gone. No sound. Just my heart pounding, and wind in the pines at the crown of the hill.

Thirst is back. I did not stop at Fiddler Spring. I can't remember why. Maybe it was the sound of the river or whatever it was that kept me walking. Now I am thirsty again. Hot and tired. But I move slowly now because I have seen one of the eagles come back, circling over me as I stand alone still. Perhaps they are in the trees ahead somewhere.

I move in silence on the pine needles another 50 yards. (Those few steps may have taken me an hour. I can't be sure any more.) And there they fly again. First one, then the largest. [illegible] through the air. [illegible]

I walk down the [illegible] other side of the hill. [illegible] am thankful for the [illegible] breeze. [illegible]

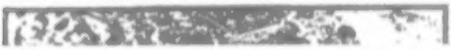
am no longer paying very close attention to where I am going.

After another hour I reach Fiddler Spring and drink, lying prone with my face in the sweet water. I quench the thirst and remove my boots and socks.

A nail has worked through my boot and gouged a hole in my right heel. I pound it down with two rocks and pad the heel with a scrap of bark. I take inventory of my feet. They are blistered. Both big toes are bruised at the nail. A charley horse in my right thigh makes its presence known for the first time.

I am humbled and a fool. When I open my eyes to begin again, the forest is vibrating. I begin the walk out after half an hour's rest.

(Continued on Page 20)



Irish Wilderness

The largest of the areas is the Irish Wilderness which covers 17,562 acres located in the Mark Twain National Forest. This is the area which for at least a century has been a region of folklore and legend.

The proposed wilderness is actually only a small sample of a larger region in the southeastern Ozarks, between the Eleven Point River and the Lower Curent River, known historically as the Irish Wilderness.

This wilderness area got its name from Fr. John Hogan and his Irish settlers. He helped the suffering and poverty stricken Irish immigrants in the railroads camps around St. Louis try and start a new life and acquire land of their own. Unfortunately the hopes of this small band were never fulfilled. The next few years brought the nation's greatest struggle. Desperate outlaws hid out in the wilderness. They looted, raided, and murdered, putting an end to the Irish immigrants, who left only their name and a lingering presence behind the hollows of the wilderness.

The true history of the Irish Wilderness is in the beds of former shallow seas. It is here where the bedrock consists of ancient deposits of carbonate sediments.

Whites Creek, Bliss Hollow, Freeman Hollow and Greenbriar Hollow are drainages which start as little more than shallow washes in the rolling upland woods in the eastern and northern portions of the wilderness. They wander, cutting down and deepening their valleys, along the way toward the Eleven Point River. This limestone region has abundant caves, sinkholes, and springs.

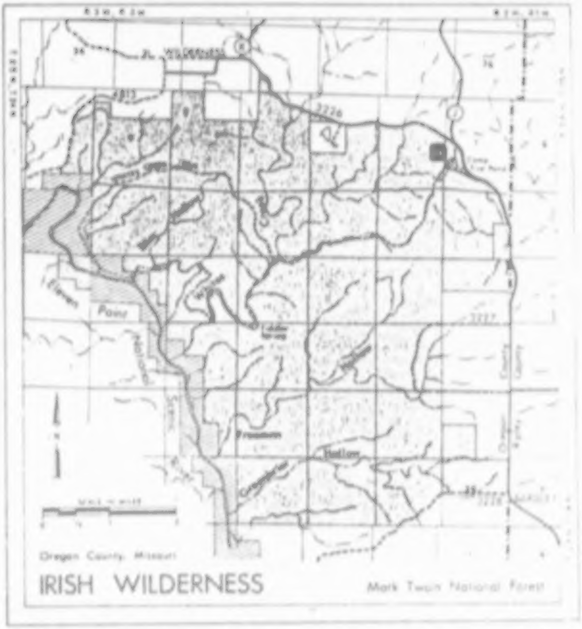
In this area nine different types of oak trees have been recorded. To supplement the oak and pine overstory forest, there is a whole range of Ozarkian herbacious species.

A wide assortment of pre-settlement Ozark fauna live in the area. For example, the Irish Wilderness is reliably reported to be one of Missouri's last strongholds for the American black bear and eastern cougar.

CONCLUSION

For several years, Missouri conservationists have united in a major effort to identify those areas of federal property which meet the criteria of the Wilderness Act, and which deserve to be protected by the provisions of that Act, and then to seek their designation as units of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

That effort has achieved some notable success. In 1976, Hercules Glades and Mingo Swamp were designated as wilderness. In 1977 the Department of Agriculture stimulated Missouri's citizen inventory efforts with the National Roadless Area Review and Evolation (RARE II) process. This resulted in 1979 with a citizen list of thirteen de-facto wilderness areas on the Mark Twain National Forest. Also in 1979 the National Park Service initiated studies of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways for its long-awaited Master Plan; these studies prompted a careful citizen evaluation of wilderness resources in the Riverways, resulting in the identification of three de facto wilderness areas. (One of these is an extension of one of the Forest Service areas.)



Thus, after several years of conscientious field survey and study, we Missouri conservationists have identified a total of fifteen areas that possess outstanding wilderness values.

With this homework completed, we have begun the process of securing permanent protection for these resources. Here again, a good start has been made. In 1980, four of these fifteen areas were designated as official wilderness. These are significant accomplishments, but they are far from a finished job. And that is the purpose of this publication.

If the remaining eleven de facto wilderness areas on Missouri's federal lands are ever to be adequately safeguarded, either by statute or by administrative action, the interested citizens of this state must know them, care about them, and be prepared to defend them from abuse.

These areas total less than 100,000 acres out of Missouri's original 44 million acres of virgin wilderness. To propose their preservation is both cautious and reasonable. Further, the protection of these areas will resolve the wilderness issue on Missouri's federal lands and provide the people of Missouri with a superb, enduring resource.

We urge you to review the areas described here. We urge also that if at all possible you get out and see them for yourselves. Once you have done that and reflected upon their significance for the well-being of your state of Missouri, we hope that you will resolve that your voice will join with ours in the final efforts for their permanent protection.

The Irish Wilderness: Father Hogan's Lost Dream

Dan Saults

It was hard on mules and oxen when the wagons left a ridge to go down into the valley and then labor up to the next ridge, but the wheels rolled smooth over a centuries-old carpet of needles beneath the great pines whose trunks were so far apart the the cavalcade passed as in the aisles of a cathedral.

There were McNamaras, O'Briens, Patrick Coffin – forty families in all, fugitives from potato blight in Ireland and railroad shanties on the Iron Mountain and Southern going south from St. Louis. They were heading for another Lost Eden between Current and Eleven Point Rivers, bearing land grants authenticated by President Buchanan's signature: a half-section for each adult male, all arranged by their leader, a young immigrant priest. Father John Joseph Hogan had seen his countrymen driving spikes in the St. Francois range [illegible] wives washing other peoples clothes in St. [illegible] their children starving on the streets. He wanted to save them, reasoning that peasants who suffered under landlords would thrive on their own acres.

Father John Joseph Hogan

So Father Hogan studied records in the land office at Potosi, rode through the Ozarks and finally chose a site between two unknown [illegible] streams that would become famous a century later. He raised some money, organized the families and led them to The Settlement.

Around them were earlier pioneers, descendants of Scots-Irish highlanders arriving a generation earlier than 1856, coming from the Appalachians [illegible] and scorning the lowlands they crossed. The young father noted in his diary the [illegible] speculating these earlier settlers might be snatched from Protestantism. He [illegible] missionary, things might have gone better [illegible] had stayed. But Hogan settled his charges [illegible] them to building homes and a church, then went off to rescue others, though part of his heart remained.

For a little while it seemed to be working. An 1860 map of Missouri shows a square marked as Father Hogan's Settlement. But next year the cannon boomed, summer, soon blue and gray cavalry were trotting on Pokey Holler trail past the new settlers, levying a toll of grain. Then guerillas began jackalizing the Ozarks. By 1865, only tumbled stones and charred logs remained. The Irish were gone, with their dreams.

All but one. Billy Griffin, son of Patrick, had joined Marmaduke's Confederate cavalry as it rode by; now, surrendered and paroled, he came back to claim his father's holdings. He married a widow with two children, and died in 1917 as Van Buren's "Uncle Billy." A last link.

The land remained. Then logging crews cut the great pines, saw mills ran from 1890 to 1910 all over the Southeast Ozarks, hardwood sprouts took over. And Father Hogan's Settlement became a placename, the Irish Wilderness, a legend whose source was almost forgotten. In the 1930's the U.S. Forest Service took over to nurture trees and replant pine.

Now float fishermen from "outside" were drifting on the Current's spring-fed flow, hearing tales and going home to tell of an Irish Wilderness, a lost and lonely land where cougars still roamed and treasure was buried. The children of the Emerald Isle had left not only a sad memory but a Fiddler's Green.

For the Irish Wilderness lures dreaming minds and free wanderers, some of whom claim an eerie spell hangs there at times, as when morning mists come up out of Fool's Catch. And perhaps something does brood upon this landscape where the Irish were wronged and then the land was wronged.

Anyway, it's a magical place for those who have felt its spell. Father Hogan recalled it as he celebrated his fiftieth year in the priesthood while Bishop of Kansas City, and mourned for the lost dreams. Others dying more recently, a few only, have wept to visit the Irish Wilderness once again.

Perhaps they have. Perhaps Father Hogan has

Father Hogan's Forest.
Photo by Oliver Schuchard

"The quiet solitariness of the place seemed to inspire devotion. Nowhere could the human soul so profoundly worship as in the depths of that leafy forest, beneath the swaying branches of the lofty oaks and pines, where solitude and the heart of man united in praise and wonder of the Great Creator."

Bishop John Hogan,
referring to Missouri's
"Irish Wilderness", 1892

Irish Wilderness: Mineral Industry's Pipe Dream

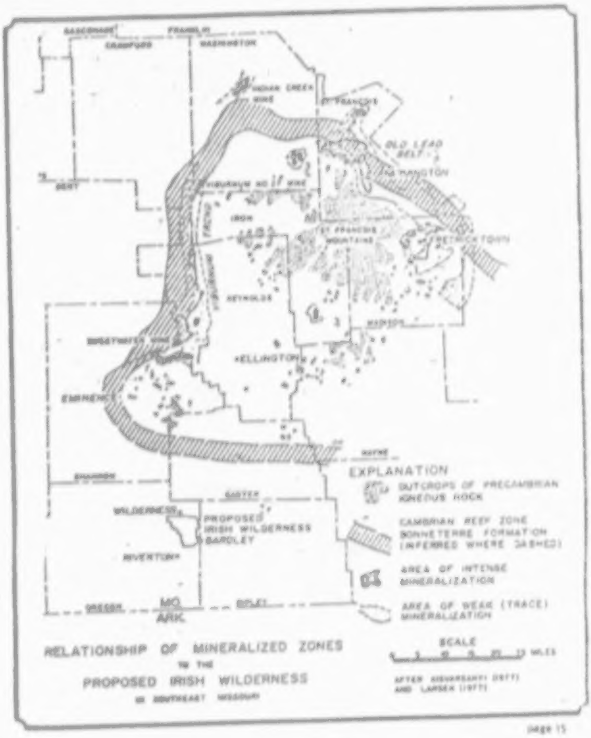
Roger Hershey

About a billion and a half years ago the St. Francois Mountains formed in the area northeast of the Irish Wilderness. Volcanic materials surfaced many times. The resulting pre-Cambrian igneous rocks buckled at the center and formed a dome. A billion years of tilting, block faulting and weathering resulted in the formation of a surface with a relief of 2,000 feet.

Approximately 530 million years ago the sea moved into the area and reworked the materials which had been loosened by almost a billion years of weathering. Lower areas received sediment which became up to 400 feet of sandstone. The seashore migrated to the north inundating many of the knobs and forming an archipelago. Lime-secreting algae formed "reef" around the buried and partially buried knobs. As the sea deepened, the reefs grew upward and eventually formed a horseshoe which fringed the highlands of the St. Francois Mountains. Northwest winds and currents caused the formation of a steep reef to the north and west of the highlands. The reefs to the south were less developed. Behind the reef, in quieter shallow water, blue-green algae flourished.

The porous reef, debri and underlying sandstone provided a system through which ore-bearing fluids could move. The rock formations on the inland (quiet) side of the reef absorbed lead and zinc extracted from the sea by the algae. Behind the reef an area of evaporation may have developed, this would have resulted in the formation of magnesium rich brines. These brines may have flowed down toward the sea and in the process may have released metals from the algal limestones. The metal-bearing brines could have continued seaward through the porous rock until they encountered sulfieds at which time metals would have been precipitated. Though objection may be made to this theory of ore formation, the evidence clearly establishes that ore bodies of lead and copper are associated with reef formations near pre-Cambrian knobs.

The Irish wilderness lies southwest of the St. Francois Mountains, bordered on the east and northeast by the "Old Lead Belt" and on the west by the "New Lead Belt", (otherwise known as the "Viburnum Trend"). The developed part of the Trend runs from south to north. Lead deposits of the area are found near reefs or pre-Cambrain knobs. However, lead is not found near all parts of the reef or near all knobs. In fact, segments of the



GASCONADE
FRANKLIN
CRAWFORD
WASHINGTON
INDIAN CREEK MINE
ST. FRANCOIS
OLD LEAD BELT
DENT
VIBURNUM NO 27 MINE
IRON
ST FRANCOIS MOUNTAINS
FREDERICKTOWN
REYNOLDS
MADISON
SWEETWATER MINE
ELLINGTON
EMINENCE
WAYNE
SHANNON
CARTER
WILDERNESS
PROPOSED IRISH WILDERNESS
BARDLEY
RIVERTON
OREGON
MO.
ARK.
RIPLEY
EXPLANATION
OUTCROPS OF PRECAMBRIAN IGNEOUS ROCK
CAMBRIAN REEF ZONE BONNETERRE FORMATION (INFERRED WHERE DASHED)
AREA OF INTENSE MINERALIZATION
AREA OF WEAK (TRACE) MINERALIZATION
SCALE
MILES
AFTER AIGUARSANYI (1977) AND LARSEN (1977)

RELATIONSHIP OF MINERALIZED ZONES TO THE PROPOSED IRISH WILDERNESS IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

Missouri Conservationist May, 1975

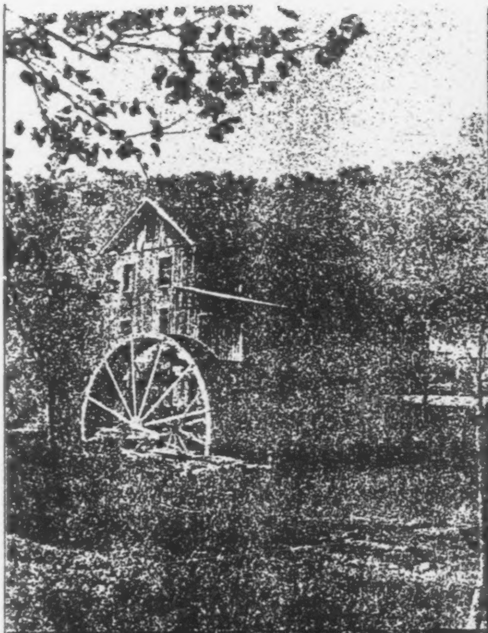
by John A. Karel

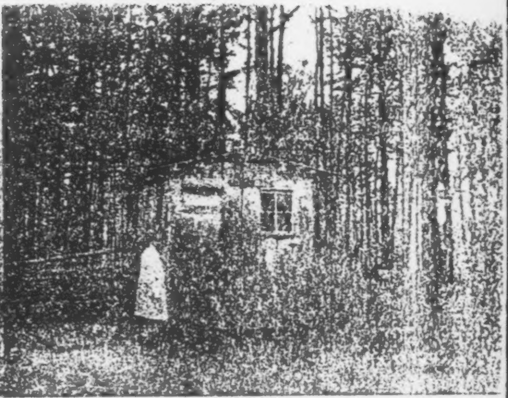
Columbia

The Irish Wilderness

On a cold, spitting November day in 1858, a courageous young priest searched in the thinly settled wild forests of southeast Missouri. What Father John Hogan was searching for was a haven, remote and secluded from the burdens of poverty and urban vice under which his people back home suffered. They were Irish and Catholic and because of that, the object of abuse and neglect in the railroad cities of the Midwest. He found in his searches that even in southeast Missouri settlement was advancing rapidly and little land was easily available. Finally, Fr. Hogan had to turn, he wrote later, to the wildest of the wild land in southern Missouri: "Westward, though very much against my will, I had to move about 40 miles to a region where there was yet much government land."

So, to a land of dark forests and high ridges near the muddy waters of the Eleven Point River, he did move, and his people followed. Away from the shanties and railroad camps, to a new life of hard work and hope on land of their own. All the expected pioneer hardships





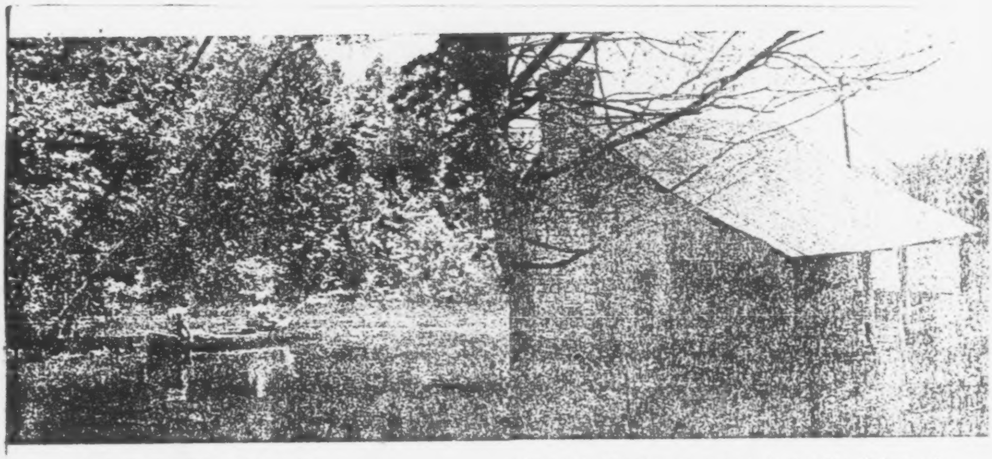
were theirs and real suffering was endured, but by 1860, the little colony was becoming established in its setting of pine forests and rocky streams. It was poor land, but the Irish were relatively few and not greedy.

Also by 1860, the fate of the tiny settlement was already being sealed by events far from the [illegible] hollows of southern Missouri. The Civil War brought violently conflicting human and social forces to this region. Father Hogan rightly believed that neither the North nor the South coveted his parish's poor, remote lands, but he could not forsee that in a Missouri campaign of blood-thirsty guerilla warfare, the rough, wild expanses of the Irish Wilderness would be a [illegible] refuge for the most desperate elements of both sides.

After five years of looting, raids, and murder, the Irish were no more. No account fully explains their total disappearance, but it was complete, only the name remained. A brief but haunting chapter of Missouri history thus closed in the greatest dream-breaker of our nation's history.

Even so, the story of the Irish Wilderness did not begin with Father Hogan's hopeful little band. The Ozarks are more ancient than almost any other land and have witnessed dramas far beyond the human horizon. Like most of the Ozark Highland, the Irish Wilderness was born in the dim past of silent fertile seas, where countless tiny crustaceans lived out their lives and left the accumulated mass of their calcified remains. The rocks that eventually formed, mostly dolomites, remain the basic bedrock of the Irish Wilderness to this day.

Once uplifted from the sea, the Irish Wilderness was the scene of a constantly changing drama of evolutionary history. The slow weathering of patiently passing eons carved deep, rough hollows and meandering stream valleys. Today, these steep valleys provide much of the famous scenic charm of the Wilderness. Because of the soluble nature of the dolomitic bedrock, a special characteristic of the Ozarks became well represented in the Irish Wilderness: Karst topography. This [illegible] landscape is taken for granted by Missourians, but visitors to our state invariably comment upon the unusual abundance of caves, sinkholes, and beautiful, clear springs. All these features lend special beauty and



interest to the Irish Wilderness.

Long ago, the present climate became dominant and the diverse assemblage of plants and animals that now inhabit the area found their homes. The Irish Wilderness in many ways is typical of all our Ozarks in its life forms, and any visitor to the Ozarks knows of tiny blue violets nestled in moss on shaded slopes, of tall pines and gnarled oaks on dry ridges, and of elusive wild turkey in remote hollows.

Human history cannot really claim the major place in the story of the Irish Wilderness, but that human history fascinates us at least as fully as the broader evolutionary themes. Suggestive remains along the streams of the southern Ozarks speak to us with the faint voices of long passed Indian settlements. We infer from these early remains a people living in substantial harmony with the wilderness landscape, taking from the land what was needful, but no more. When white men first explored the Wilderness, the Osage tribe claimed the area as part of their hunting grounds, although their permanent settlements were to the north and west.

Father Hogan's band arrived not long after these first explorations and left their name upon the place forever. After the Civil War, scattered settlements by others had little effect upon the wild hills. In the exploitive American era of the late nineteenth century, large sawmill companies swooped down upon the great Ozark forests, including the Irish Wilderness. When they had finished, the magnificent virgin forests of shortleaf pine and white oak were no more. After this, the land, which had never been rich in anything but beauty, became nearly exhausted.

All but abandoned, the recuperative powers of nature began their slow restorative work. Only because of the land's poverty did the white men allow this to occur and not seek to exploit it even further. In the 1930s the nation's conscience revived and we recognized a need for conservation. The Irish Wilderness was only one of numerous tracts purchased by the Federal Government and placed in the National Forest System.

The accumulation of human and nonhuman history has somehow left a special mark upon the Irish Wilderness. There is a spirit that lives in the brooding landscape here as in few places anywhere. It partakes of the land itself, of the winding Eleven Point River to the west, of sighing pines seen on far ridges under a grey sky, of furtive animals only barely sensed, and of the lingering wraiths of Indian and Irish hunters. It is not easy to describe, but if you ever visit the place, especially if you are along and on foot, you will not question its power.

Since their takeover in the mid-1930s, the Forest Service has recognized the unique quality of the Irish Wilderness. They have seen the wisdom of protecting the wilderness from invasion by roads or development. In the jostling of history, almost all of the wild regions of Missouri have been tamed in one way or another. Inevitably, they have succumbed to permanent settlement, floodng, mining, road construction, or even suburbanization.

Whether by accident or as part of a larger plan, the Irish Wilderness stands unique today in Missouri as a sizeable area still substantially intact as a natural ecosystem. When this is considered against the background of its historical and cultural significance, we begin to recognize a natural candidate for permanent protection under the National Wilderness Preservation System. The designation of the Irish Wilderness as part of that system would insure that the rich heritage of Missouri history and natural values which we now cherish there, will remain undisturbed for all time.

We Missourians have settled our state almost completely. We reap a rich harvest of raw materials from our lands and fuel great cities with our mineral and agricultural products. There should be little argument about protecting a few remnants of our landscape.

Our mines are rich, our pastures and farms productive, our factories alive with industrial energy; but in the Irish Wilderness what we protect and cherish is the land itself. Here is community of life much older than man flourishes: a store of knowledge is held in trust which we may have yet to fully appreciate. Here also, in 1858, Father Hogan came looking for a remote area where his people could free themselves from the corruptness of overcrowded cities. A little over 100 years later, we again look at the Irish Wilderness as a haven and a refuge, as a landscape of beauty and hope.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you, sir.

Next, Mr. Iffrig.

STATEMENT OF GREG IFFRIG, IRISH WILDERNESS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION, JEFFERSON CITY, MO.

Mr. IFFRIG. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My name is Greg Iffrig and I'm here today speaking as a representative of the Irish Wilderness Protective Association. I appreciate very much the opportunity to be here.

The IWPA was formed in 1977 with the specific goal and mission to see protection of the Irish Wilderness in Missouri. Our organization was formed in the wake of passage of the Eastern Wilderness Act which designated a number of areas in the eastern United States as wilderness and set the policy whereby qualifying areas in the East could be designated as units of the national wilderness preservation system.

Unfortunately when that act was passed it did not include any area from Missouri. The Irish was at that time and still is the best known and highest quality wilderness in our State. Since 1975 a total of six areas have been designated from Missouri, but the Irish Wilderness has still languished.

Our association formed to insure that adequate legislation protection be provided for Missouri's premier wilderness, the Irish Wilderness.

One characteristic feature of the Ozark is karst topography. The meaning of the word can be easily explained in the Irish. Put simply as a region of limestone with deep fissures, sinkholes, caves and springs. Recorded from the Irish are a total of 21 caves, at least five permanent springs, several intermittent springs, and some 20 sinkhole ponds. Together all of these features point to the natural geological significance of the Irish Wilderness. For the United States, Missouri has unsurpassed karst topography, and the Irish Wilderness is recognized as perhaps the best karst wilderness anywhere and is a superb addition to the national wilderness preservation system for that reason alone.

Based on RARE II data, the Irish Wilderness represents a significant example of the oak-pine forest. It is the best example of this forest type found based on RARE II data. In the Irish Wilderness the oak-pine forest is extensive, spreading over 17,000 acres. Based on the RARE II inventory, relatively few other areas in the country have the same forest components. If one were to examine each of these in detail we suspect that the basic oak-pine forest is perhaps nowhere better represented in the United States than in the Irish Wilderness.

Certainly there are better quality areas in much smaller tracts, but no example of this forest can be found in such an extensive area which is undeveloped and where such integrity is still preservable.

The Missouri Native Plant Society voted unanimously to support the bills before you, has pointed out, and I quote, "The Irish Wilderness is one of the most significant botanical resources in Missouri."

One of the most distinguished botanists in the country, Dr. Julian Steyermark, also a member of the Society, conducted floral studies in the Irish in the thirties. And commenting in his book, "Flora of Missouri," about some of the unusual flora in the area, Dr. Steyermark recommended that such habitats be preserved in their natural condition for the important geological and geographic significance, signified by the occurrence of their relic survivors.

For animals too, the Irish Wilderness, as one of the last large tracts of undeveloped land, holds special value. Its remoteness, relatively large size, and its diversity of habitats allow for a wide range of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. A total listing of reptiles and amphibians either documented as occurring in the Irish or thought by experts to have a high likelihood of specifically occurring within the area includes 21 amphibians and 39 reptiles. Mammals either observed or thought by the experts to occur specifically in the Irish Wilderness include 40 diferent species.

On this list are cougar and black bear which have been reliably reported to use the Irish Wilderness as one of their last strongholds in Missouri. Also on this list are six species of bats known to occur in the area including the Indiana and gray bats, both federally protected.

For all of these reasons we urge you to act favorably to preserve the last of the large wilderness tracts in Missouri. It is not only the largest, but also the best Missouri has to offer to the national wilderness preservation system.

I would like to add just a few brief remarks.

Senator **Wallop**. I hate to cut you off, but I do feel that I owe the other people who have come the opportunity to testify, and we have a vote at 12:45 and we simply won't be able to let them present their testimony.

I apologize.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Iffrig follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF GREG IFFRIG

Please reply to:
Star Route 4, Box 2089
Branson, Missouri 65616

My name is Greg Iffrig and I am here today to speak as a representative of the Irish Wilderness Protective Association (IWPA). I appreciate very much the opportunity to be here and to offer the expertise of our group in support of this legislation. The IWPA was formed in 1977 with the specific mission to seek protection of the Irish Wilderness in Oregon County. Our organization was formed in the wake of passage of the Eastern Wilderness Act, Public Law 93-622, which designated a number of areas in the eastern United States as wilderness and set the policy whereby qualifying areas in the east could be designated as units of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Unfortunately, when the Eastern Wilderness Act was passed it did not include any area from Missouri. The Irish Wilderness was at that time and still is the best known and highest quality wilderness in Missouri. Since 1975, a total of six areas have been designated as wilderness in our state, but the Irish still has languished. Our Association formed to insure that adequate legislative protection be provided for Missouri's premier wilderness, the Irish Wilderness.

Since there are several groups today, presenting remarks to the committee, we have each chosen a specific area which we will address. The IWPA is intimately familiar with both the Irish and Paddy Creek and our remarks will focus on the natural history values of the two areas.

After my first visit to the Irish Wilderness, I came away with a tremendous feeling for the biological values this wildland held for wildlife, plant communities and for preserving a small, but significant, piece of that unique physiographic region of the country known as the Ozarks.

The geology of the area is superb, and although a detailed geologic interpretation is being offered by another witness, I would like to touch just briefly on the geology as it relates to the biological significance of the Irish Wilderness. One characteristic feature of the Ozarks is "karst" topography and Missouri's Ozarks rank with the major karst regions of the world. The meaning of the word can be easily explained in the Irish Wilderness. Put simply, it is a region of limestone with deep fissures, sinkholes, caves and streams. Recorded from the Irish Wilderness are a total of 21 caves, at least five permanent springs, several intermittent springs, and some twenty sinkhole ponds. Together, all of these features point to the natural geologic significance of the Irish Wilderness. For the United States, Missouri has unsurpassed karst wilderness anywhere and is a superb addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System for this reason alone.

The limestone and dolomite which contribute to the karst features sandwich another rock layer of sandstone. It is the weathering of these various parent rock materials which form the soils. The soils in the area were thoroughly studied in 1975 and reported on in Soil Survey of the Mark Twain National Forest Area, Missouri -- Parts of Carter, Oregon, Ripley, and Shannon Counties. Two soil associations occur in the Irish Wilderness, the Clarksville-Coulstone Association and the Poyner-Macedonia-Captina Association. Within these two soil associations, a finer breakdown shows 16 soil series and within that, 40 soil units. Based on these diverse soils a variety of natural biological communities prosper in the Irish Wilderness.

During the RARE II inventory of Missouri roadless areas, several potential wilderness areas were evaluated according to Bailey's (1976) Ecoregions of the United States and Kuchler's (1966) Potential Natural Vegetation. The Irish Wilderness represents a significant example of the oak-hickory and the oak-hickory-pine forest, although in the Irish, relatively little hickory is found. It is the best example of the oak-hickory-pine forest type found within Bailey's

Eastern Deciduous Forest Province. In the Irish Wilderness, the oak and pine forest is extensive, spreading over 17,000 acres. Based on the RARE II inventory, relatively few other areas in the country have the same forest components. If one were to examine each of these in detail, we suspect that the basic oak-pine forest is, perhaps, nowhere better represented in the United States than in the Irish Wilderness. Certainly there are better quality areas in much smaller tracts, but no example of this forest community can be found in such an extensive area which is undeveloped and where such integrity is still preservable.

If we look more specifically at the area, there are a number of vegetational associations, commonly referred to as communities which can be described. The State of Missouri uses a classification scheme to delineate these assemblages of associated plants and animals. These areas are characterized by dominant features, generally plants, and describe conditions of soil, moisture, bedrock geology, exposure, and local climatic conditions. Using that system, the following natural communities have been documented from the Irish Wilderness:

LAND COMMUNITIES

1) Mixed pine - hardwoods on cherty, acid or sandy soils, shortleaf pine and xerophytic oak species such as blackjack oak, southern red oak, black oak.

2) Black oak, post oak, white oak type on thin acid soils. Scarlet oak and black hickory also can be characteristic species.

3) White oak, northern red oak, shagbark hickory type on deeper soil.

4) White oak, sugar maple type, limestone slopes and colluvial soils, with good drainage.

5) Eastern red cedar and prairie glades on dolomites and limestones in southern Missouri.

6) Ozark witch-hazel in narrow stream beds with gravel bars.

7) Willow species and floodplain associates of major streams throughout the Ozark region.

8) Cane brake communities along Mississippi and certain drainages of the southern Ozarks.

9) Upland sinkhole ponds in the Ozarks with rare coastal plains species - buttonbush, hibiscus.

10) Cave systems, with their unusual fauna: cave adapted fishes, salamanders, invertebrates, and bats.

11) Bluff face communities along limestone or dolomite cliffs.

AQUATIC COMMUNITIES
12) Oxbows and sloughs: typically warm (unless spring fed) with bottoms of silt and organic debris and often chocked with milfoil and other submergent plants. Characteristic fishes include grass pickerel, spotted sucker, creek chubsucker, yellow bullhead, plains topminnow, redear sunfish and least darter.

13) Streams draining intricately dissected uplands underlain principally by limestones and dolomites... flow permanent because of numerous springs; stream channel consisting of a succession of well defined riffles and short pools floored by chert gravel.

14) Sinkhole ponds: no native fish fauna because of inaccessibility and/or periodic drying.

15) Larger rivers...characterized by an abundance of large fishes and a great variety of minnows and darters. (The Irish Wilderness borders the Eleven Point River which is recognized as one of the finest natural rivers in the United States.)

16) Springs and spring branches...characterized by great stability of flow, temperature and other environmental factors.

17) Cave streams: the Ozark cavefish and southern cavefish are restricted to this habitat, as are certain salamanders, the crayfish *Cambarus setosus*, and other invertebrates.

The Missouri Native Plant Society, whose board voted unanimously to support the bill before you, has pointed out "the Irish Wilderness is one of the most significant botanical resources in Missouri." This is based on their knowledge of the various aquatic and land communities and the plants they harbour. One of the most distinguished botanists in the nation, Dr. Julian Steyermark, conducted floral studies in the Irish Wilderness in the 1930's. In commenting in his definitive book, *Flora of Missouri*, about some of the unusual flora of the area, including the very rare sedge *Scirpus subterminalis*, Dr. Steyermark recommended that "such habitats should be preserved in their natural condition for the important geological and geographical history signified by the occurrence of their relict survivors."

One of the karst features, the sinkhole ponds, are important habitat for several plants found elsewhere only in the southern coastal plan of Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama. These upland ponds occur on the ridgetops in otherwise dry areas and are the last remnants of an ancient swampy plain which once covered this southern part of Missouri. Several of the unusual plants, outside of their typical range, and found only in Missouri in sinkhole ponds are Carex decompisita, Hypericum walteri, Houttonia inflata, and Glyceria acutiflora. All of these plants are recorded from the Irish Wilderness and the last species is listed in Missouri as rare and occurs in both Fiddler Pond and Brawleys Pond.

For animals, too, the Irish Wilderness, as one of the last large tracts of undeveloped land, holds special value. Its remoteness, relatively large size, and its diversity of habitats allow for a wide range of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. A total listing of reptiles and amphibians either documented as occurring in the Irish or thought by experts to have a high likelihood of specifically occurring within the area includes 21 amphibians and 39 reptiles. Mammals either observed or thought by the experts to occur specifically in the Irish Wilderness include 40 different species. On this list are cougar and black bear which have been reliably reported to use the Irish Wilderness as one of their last strongholds in Missouri. Also on this list are six species of bats known to occur in the area including the Indiana and gray bats, both federally protected.

One of the key factors in the importance of the Irish as habitat for native plants and animals is its size. At 17,560 acres, there is no larger wilderness left in the state. It is our best and only opportunity to provide so large an island of reserved land amidst the continually changing areas which surround it. It is being increasingly recognized in scientific circles that large tracts of land are best if we are to preserve species. The Irish is the best we can do in Missouri.

For all of these reasons, we urge you to act favorably to preserve the last of the large wilderness tracts in Missouri. It is not only the largest, but also the best Missouri has to offer to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

As a member of the conservation community and speaking for the IWPA which has for several years worked to protect the Irish, Missouri's first wilderness proposal, I would also like to speak favorably for the inclusion in the bill of an area known as the Paddy Creek Wilderness. Paddy Creek is located in Texas County, Missouri and is 6,888 acres in size. The natural history values and qualities of this area are superb and it is an area which, after study, the Forest Service recommended for wilderness designation.

Paddy Creek is in the Salem Plateau region of the Ozarks. Found here are extensive exposures of Roubidoux sandstone overlying dolomite and limestone. The cutting action of Big Paddy and Little Paddy Creeks has left a rugged landscape with a veritable maze of winding valley and steep hollows which are divided by sharp rocky ridges. Among the more scenic aspects of the area are the bluffs which outcrop along the walls framing both creek valleys.

There are over 20 small caves in the area as well as more than 50 springs, most of them being quite small. The creeks, fed by the springs are typical of Ozarkian watersheds with clear pools, gravel bottoms and a variety of fish species present including longear sunfish, goggle-eye, minnows and small-mouth bass.

Various wildlife species are present including the larger animals, the whitetailed deer, wild turkey, bobcat, fox, as well as squirrel, mink, beaver, deer mice and eastern wood rat. Pileated woodpeckers, birds which prefer extensive forest are found in the area. Other birds known to occur here are turkey vultures, red-shouldered hawks, smaller songbirds, and owls.

The plant communities which support the various wildlife species are notable. The Missouri Native Plant Society, in responding to an Environmental Impact Statement in which the Forest Service recommended the area be designated, outlined 14 different natural communities which they have identified at Paddy Creek. These are derived in a similar fashion as those listed for the Irish Wilderness, but are a little more technical in nature. They are:

1) Dry sandstone upland forest,
2) Dry-mesic sandstone upland forest,
3) Sandstone bluff,
4) Sandstone glade,
5) Sandstone talus slope,
6) Dry chert upland forest,
7) Dry-mesic chert upland forest,
8) Mesic limestone forest,
9) Dolomitic bluff,
10) Dolomitic glade,
11) Gravel wash,
12) Mesic bottomland forest,
13) Calcareous seep,
14) Cave.

Probably most notable in terms of vegetation at Paddy Creek is the presence of extensive stands of shortleaf pine. The sandy, acidic soils found over the sandstone bedrock provide ideal habitat for this species. On these uplands associated with shortleaf pine are northern red oak, black hickory and white oak. In contrast to the dry pine uplands are several areas with sufficient moisture, especially around the small springs, with ferns, mosses, and other water-loving plants.

Paddy Creek and the Irish Wilderness, if protect by legislation, will combine with Missouri's existing wilderness to provide a superb biological contribution to the National Wilderness System. Passage of this legislation is important for scientific purposes, for the biological and geological values of these undeveloped areas and I urge your favorable action.

-*-

Senator WALLOP. Mr. Callison.

STATEMENT OF CHARLES H. CALLISON, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC LANDS INSTITUTE, DENVER, COLO.

Mr. CALLISON. I'd like to thank Mr. Rucker who exchanged places with me so I could catch a plane early this afternoon. My statement will be brief.

I wish only to add some perspective. I am probably the only person at this hearing who was around when the Wilderness Act passed Congress and became law. I was here, serving as Conservation Director of the National Wildlife Federation, when the first wilderness bill was introduced by the late Senator Humphrey in the late fifties. As a staff member of the National Audubon Society in the sixties, I testified when hearings were held by this committee. Then it was a Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

The late Senator Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico was the chairman, and he took the wilderness bill to the floor with strong bipartisan support.

I was in the gallery when it was debated and passed, and I clearly remember a speech made by Senator Barry Goldwater. Senator Goldwater was fearful that designating the great wilderness areas in the West by act of Congress would call too much public attention to them, and that they would be overrun by too many visitors. He did not want to see the wilderness spoiled.

I have worked for the National Wildlife Federation and the National Audubon Society, and after retiring as executive vice president of the latter in 1977, I founded the Public Lands Institute. Since a merger last summer, PLI has been an operating division of the Natural Resources Defense Council. NRDC and PLI support S. 1964 and S. 1965, but I testify today as a Missourian.

I grew up in Missouri and reside now in Jefferson City. Before coming to Washington in 1951 I served as executive secretary of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, and as chief of information and editor for the State conservation department. I know the Irish Wilderness from firsthand experience; I have hunted deer in it. I don't recall having been in the Paddy Creek area but ample evidence concerning its wilderness values has been presented by Senators Danforth and Eagleton and by other witnesses today.

Just as bipartisan support marked passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964 and has characterized congressional actions adding wilderness areas in subsequent years, the Eagleton-Danforth bipartisan sponsorship of the Irish and Paddy Creek bills makes Missourians proud. We cannot detect any difference in the enthusiasm of our two Senators for this legislation. And just as passage of the Wilderness Act by overwhelming majorities in both Houses of Congress reflected the breadth of public support, Senators Danforth and Eagleton are aware of overwhelming support among Missouri citizens for these bills.

The bulk of the National Wilderness Preservation System lies within the great public land areas of the States west of the 100th meridian. Areas of the quality of the Irish and Paddy Creek are few and far between in the Eastern States.

You have heard testimony documenting the uniqueness of the relatively small areas within the Mark Twain National Forest in the Missouri Ozarks. Because of their uniqueness, their preservation will enhance the ecological and scenic diversity of the Wilderness System, will conserve wildlife, and will serve the American public.

Respectfully, we urge prompt passage of S. 1964 and S. 1965.

I thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Callison follows:]

Public Lands Institute
1725 I STREET, N.W.
SUITE 600
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202 223-8210

New York Office
122 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y 10168
212 949-0049

Western Offices
1720 RACE STREET
DENVER, CO 80218
303 377-9740

25 KEARNEY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108
415 421-6561

May 27, 1982

Statement by Charles H. Callison,
Director, Public Lands Institute,
on Legislation to Create the
Irish and Paddy Creek Wilderness Areas in Missouri

To Subcommittee on Public Lands and Reserved Water,
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

My statement will be brief. I wish only to add some perspective. I am probably the only person at this hearing who was around when the Wilderness Act passed Congress and became law. I was here, in fact, serving as Conservation Director of the National Wildlife Federation, when the first wilderness bill was introduced by the late Senator Hubert H. Humphrey in the late 1950's. As a staff member of the National Audubon Society in the 1960's, I testified when hearings were held by this Committee -- then called the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. The late Senator Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico was chairman, and he took the Wilderness Bill to the floor with strong bi-partisan support.

I was in the gallery when it was debated and passed, and I clearly remember a speech made by Senator Barry Goldwater. Senator Goldwater was fearful that designating the great wilderness areas in the West by Act of Congress would call too much

Public Lands Institute is a Division of Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.

public attention to them, and that they would be overrun by too many visitors. He did not want to see the wilderness spoiled.

I have worked for the National Wildlife Federation and the National Audubon Society, and after retiring as executive vice president of the latter in 1977, I founded the Public Lands Institute. Since a merger last summer, PLI has been an operating division of the Natural Resources Defense Council. NRDC and PLI support S.1964 and S.1965, but I testify today as a Missourian. I grew up in Missouri and reside now in Jefferson City. Before coming to Washington in 1951 I served as executive secretary of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, and as chief of information and editor for the State Conservation Department. I know the Irish Wilderness from first hand experience; I have hunted deer in it. I don't recall having been in the Paddy Creek area but ample evidence concerning its wilderness values has been presented by Senators Danforth and Eagleton and by other witnesses today.

Just as bi-partisan support marked passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964 and has characterized Congressional actions adding wilderness areas in subsequent years, the Eagleton-Danforth bi-partisan sponsorship of the Irish and Paddy Creek bills makes Missourians proud. We cannot detect any difference in the enthusiasm of our two senators for this legislation. And just as passage of the Wilderness Act by overwhelming majorities in both Houses of Congress reflected the breadth of public support, Senators Danforth and Eagleton are aware of overwhelming support among Missouri citizens for these bills.

The bulk of the National Wilderness Preservation System lies within the great public land areas of the states west of the 100th meridian. Areas of the quality of the Irish and Paddy Creek are few and far between in the eastern states.

You have heard testimony documenting the uniqueness of these relatively small areas within the Mark Twain National Forest in the Missouri Ozarks. Because of their uniqueness, their preservation will enhance the ecological and scenic diversity of the Wilderness System, will conserve wildlife, and will serve the American public.

Respectfully, we urge prompt passage of S.1964 and S.1965.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you.

Mr. Elliott?

STATEMENT OF WILSON ELLIOTT, RESIDENT OF PADDY CREEK AREA, ROBY, MO.

Mr. ELLIOTT. Mr. Chairman, I'm Wilson Elliott. I live in Missouri. I live about half a mile from the Paddy Creek Wilderness area. I grew up there. My grandfather came into the area with a saw rig and eight horses.

My family has a past history of working in timber. I worked in timber beside my dad and still do. I feel in this area that we cherish so much, it's not going to hurt us in the timber industry. It's been out of production now for 10 years and there's no hardship on us.

When the Forest Service came out in favor of the Paddy Creek area there were so many spots that they missed, all the beautiful places they never even mentioned, and they still felt that it should be an area to protect.

I'd just like to see the area protected for generations to come. The clearcut, what happened within a mile of the boundary, in some places less. Surely we can set the 6,888 acres back.

And I have a list here of 42 other people that all live within 3 miles of the area that feel the same way I do. I haven't got $200,000 worth of equipment, but it's feeding my family and I'm pleased with it.

I thank you.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you very much. That's eloquent testimony. I appreciate you coming here.

Thank you all.

The next will be Mr. Booker Rucker, director of the historic preservation program for Jefferson City, Mo.; Mr. Tom Bormann, Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club; Dan Chrisinger, geologist from Port Townsend, State of Washington; Bob Strong, Mississippi Chapter of the Ozark Society, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Mr. Rucker.

STATEMENT OF BOOKER H. RUCKER, DIRECTOR, MISSOURI HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, JEFFERSON CITY, MO.

Mr. Rucker. Thank you Senator.

My name is B. H. Rucker. I'm the director of the Missouri historic preservation program, and I've filed a written statement with the committee, but I'd like to make some statements.

Senator Wallop. That will be part of the record.

Mr. Rucker. I find myself in somewhat unusual company today. I'm not an environmentalist. I deal professionally with the preservation of manmade structures, and the Irish Wilderness is one which I would like to address as a historic preservation issue, and probably the only wilderness area in Missouri or anywhere else that I would address in that fashion.

Our State has a lot of good land and some poor land. The good land was settled early in the early 1800's. The poor land was the last to be taken up. The area that we know today as the Irish Wilderness was known just simply as The Wilderness from the earliest stage of our States. The very rugged Ozark land.

At the time Father Hogan, the young Irish priest from St. Louis became concerned with the impoverished Irish immigrants there and decided that a utopian colony would be the way to put them back in the situation more like what they knew in Ireland. The wilderness land is the only land that was poor enough to be available to poor people, and he founded a very idealistic enterprise there in 1859 and moved families of Irish immigrants from St. Louis into the wilderness.

Whether they would have succeeded or not is doubtful, but the Civil War began just as they were starting and the whole enterprise came to nought anyway.

The wilderness being what it was, rather thinly settled, became a no man's land and a haven for bandits and military raiding parties, and the settlers came in and burned homes and destroyed crops. So by the end of the Civil War, nothing much happened until the 1890's when there was a big boom in timber and much of the area was cut over and didn't last long.

The policies were such that they got in, got what they wanted, and by the time World War I, it was simply reverting to wilderness again.

So the point is in Missouri, the Irish Wilderness has always been wilderness. It's known historically as a wilderness, and it's still that way today.

If you spoke to anyone in the State of Missouri anywhere in the State and you said wilderness and said it with a capital "W", they would understand you to mean the Irish Wilderness, and not a wilderness defined scientifically or by terms of wilderness legislation.

For that reason we feel it would be worthy of it to be designated as a historical monument. But I think the provisions in the law for wilderness designation would actually serve to protect the historical aspects of it. And we suggest that would be an appropriate thing to have done with it.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Rucker follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF BOOKER H. RUCHER

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I thank you for allowing me to appear before you, to address an issue which would not routinely involve either myself or my office. As a full-time professional historic preservationist, my interests and energies are focused on the preservation of Missouri's cultural heritage. The selection and designation of wilderness areas are typically the responsibility of other programs and other professions.

I find myself before you, however, in the case of the Irish Wilderness, not to speak of its value as wilderness in the natural sense, but to speak about its importance as a cultural phenomena significant in the history of our state.

The Irish Wilderness has a long and colorful history. Interestingly, it was called a wilderness over a century ago and it remains so today. In the mid-19th century, a time when most of our state was sparsely settled and might have been thought by easterners to have been all wilderness, this place - the Irish Wilderness - was known and thought by Missourians to have been wilderness. It was a wild, unsettled and largely unknown place.

Missouri is a bountiful state, possessed of good land and plentiful streams. The earliest migrants to the state tended to take up the best farming land first, the rich bottoms along the major rivers and the upland prairies being the quickest settled. The Ozark lands, because of thin soil, rugged terrain and heavy timber, were of least interest to a largely agrarian population. Thus, by the mid-1800's, only this Ozark part of our state remained generally unpopulated and still available for settlement at low land prices.

Following the disastrous potato famines in Ireland, over 30,000 impoverished Irish migrants had taken up residence in St. Louis. Of generally rural extraction, they earned a meager subsistence by selling their labor cheap in an urban environment; the women by entering domestic service and the men by following the roughest sort of labor, the railroad work camps. Family life ceased to exist for these unfortunate new Missourians.

Thus, it became the dream and the hope of Father John Joseph Hogan to lead these poor souls to a better way of life. In the purest American tradition, he sought to establish these Irish immigrants in an agrarian setting where through ownership of land, coupled with good husbandry, thrift and hard work, they could find prosperity.

Because of scarcity of funds, Father Hogan realized that the Wilderness would provide the only lands that were within economic reach for the founding of his settlement. Although these lands were of marginal agricultural value, he counted on the determination of his people to overcome any difficulties. In 1859, Father Hogan made his first land purchases, and what had been simply The Wilderness became The Irish Wilderness.

The dream was doomed, however, before it even fairly began. While the first tentative steps of settlement were still being taken, the sheer hell of civil war was unleashed upon the land. The Irish Wilderness, because it was not densely settled was not firmly under the control of any faction. It became a no-man's land, hiding place and haven for guerillas, outlaws and brigands of every persuasion.

The next several years were a sorry tapestry of military raiding parties, houses burned, crops destroyed, horses stolen, men shot and hanged, families broken up and, saddest of all, refuge columns heading north, back to the cities.

The end of the Civil War left the Wilderness once again wilderness, largely unpeopled, Father Hogan's dream only a dream. The Irish had scattered, and only the name and the Wilderness remained as a part of our historic legacy, a reminder of a noble enterprise that failed, but one which enriched our history because it was even attempted.

Following the Civil War, the Wilderness lay largely quiet for the better part of three decades. In the 1890's, the country was growing at an enormous rate, and the rapidly expanding cities of the east were voracious consumers of lumber in every form. This ever expanding need for timber products, from railroad ties to finished lumber, created an economic boom in the Ozark area of Missouri. The Irish Wilderness contained the most magnificant stand of forest in our state and, because of it, received early and intense interest. Several large timber companies focused their attention on the Irish Wilderness area and a new era of activity began. Timber camps and towns were established and existing settlements expanded rapidly. The story of the harvest of this natural bounty became a new and significant chapter in the history of our state - one which still lives in oral legend and written history. Over the next twenty years, as much as sixty million board feet of pine lumber were produced each year by these large timber companies and the once magnificant forest was reduced to a vista of stumps and bare ground.

By the time of World War I, the timber companies were gone, the lumber camps were ghost towns and the population had diminished to the few indigenous Ozark families who had always lived in the area. Of a huge enterprise at Grandin that had involved 1,500 employees, hundreds of company owned houses, stores, a hospital and a hotel, very little remains. The town of Wilderness dwindled to less than a hundred souls. The surviving evidences of this remarkable saga are currently being studied and will be nominated for enrollment on the National Register of Historic Places in the United States.

The exploitative philosophy of the timber companies was so rapacious that little was left of economic value and the Irish Wilderness once again became a wild and lonely place. Little interest was paid it since there seemed no further way to extract a profit from it.

The clear cut acres of stumps grew slowly into underbrush and, finally, into an impenetratable thicket, a wilderness of a different sort. Today, more than a half century later, the Irish Wilderness once again is covered with deep forest. It remains a wilderness in a very real sense - a place without roads or people, houses or farms, thousands of acres of lofty forests and beautiful streams, quietly embracing the memory of turbulent times and the long dead people who once lived in it, loved in it, worked in it and who sometimes fought and died in it - a living monument to our Missouri heritage.

It is in this sense that I address the Irish Wilderness as an issue of historic preservation, that it represents in the minds of Missourians a part of our history, our culture, and of ourselves. Today, these are values relating to our heritage and they stand alone, worthy of consideration, entirely aside from the value of wilderness as a natural landscape preserved.

People all over Missouri have heard of the Irish Wilderness. Most of them have never been there, many do not know exactly where it is. But all of them know it is a place in the Ozarks that is still wild, that it has always been that way, and that through the years it has been the scene of immigrants hopes and desperate deeds. The Wilderness has a mysterious appeal and assumes an almost mythic quality in the minds of Missourians. To the botanist, zoologist or naturalist, there are many other wilderness areas. Some may even be bigger or better in some aspect of their natural history. But to the typical Missourian, wilderness as a concept is always embodied in the Irish Wilderness as a reality.

Thus, it is important that the Irish Wilderness survive in its wild state - it is too important a part of our legends, of our folklore and our history to lose. Its designation as wilderness under the law would achieve this objective, and would make a legal fact of what is already indelibly written in our collective consciousness.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you very much.

Mr. BORMANN.

STATEMENT OF TOM BORMANN, CHAIRMAN, WILDERNESS COMMITTEE, OZARK CHAPTER, SIERRA CLUB, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Mr. BORMANN. My name is Tom Bormann. I'm an insurance broker at a large agency in downtown St. Louis dealing primarily with commercial property and casualty business. I'm married and the father of a 14-year-old daughter. I'm chairman of the Wilderness Committee of the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club.

My first experience took place in mid-March 7 years ago in the Paddy Creek area. Because I carried too much weight I developed a strained knee the first day, and on the next day in a heavy snowstorm I hiked out in a great deal of pain. But I learned the value of a wilderness area because of the solitude. I came out of that weekend in a very relaxed state of mind and I was able to go back to work in that frame.

My introduction to the Irish Wilderness came a couple of years later. I was to lead a backpacking trip on the Whites Creek Trail in early April. The week before I went down to scout out the trail beforehand, so I drove down on Friday evening and slept and started hiking. I finished the 20-some-odd miles shortly after dark.

The reason I did it was, I did a day hike was, I made an agreement with my wife that I would only be gone 1 weekend a month and I didn't want to take 2 weekends for that. I'm sure you can appreciate that.

But again, what makes the Irish special is solitude, it's the solitude that you can get there because you can walk for so far and not see anybody.

I don't want to leave you with the idea that these wilderness areas should be preserved just for so-called elitist backpackers. In spite of what some people would have you believe, wilderness is not a single use in a multiple use national forest. The average wilderness, the Paddy Creek areas, only mining, timbering and nonexistent grazing would be prohibited. Other uses would still be available which would include picnicking, caving. Both areas have a number of caves. Both areas have a number of picnicking facilities on the edge. Both areas are used for day hiking by a large number of people.

There's a very nice nature trail in the Paddy Creek area. Photographers have unlimited opportunities in both areas. Both have a wide variety of plants and animals to photograph and both are very scenic in different ways.

Paddy Creek has scenic vistas. The Irish is a little bit more just woods, but you could find very scenic areas. As more and more people rediscover nature, more people turn to nature study. They have learned as I have that the more you know about plants, animals, and rocks, the more enjoyable the outdoor experience becomes.

Both areas are open to horseback riders. There are horses going to both areas. Both areas are open to walk-in hunting which many consider to be a quality experience. Canoeing is also an experience that is available on the borders of both areas, at Eleven Point

River that runs alongside the Irish, and the Big Piney River runs close by the Paddy Creek area.

There are many other areas to designate this as wilderness. There are no other areas of higher quality in Missouri. Both provide a high degree of solitude.

The Sierra Club believes the most important reason for designation of these areas is that so little of the land in Missouri has been preserved, well under 1 percent. Wilderness is a part of our heritage. We cannot afford to lose it for a short-term gain.

There are only a handful of publicly owned areas that are large enough to even consider for wilderness in Missouri.

In conclusion, there just is no good reason not to designate the Irish and the Paddy Creek areas as wilderness. We have no shortage of good timber in Missouri. Neither is there a shortage of lead.

Mr. Chairman, the Sierra Club asks you to please approve S. 1964 designating the Irish Wilderness, and S. 1965 for the Paddy Creek area.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Bormann follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF TOM BORMANN

May 27, 1982

Gentemen. My name is Tom Bormann. I'm an insurance broker and a CPCU at a large agency in St. Louis dealing primarily with commercial property and casualty customers. I'm married and the father of a 14 year old daughter. I am the Chairman of the Wilderness Committee of the Ozark Chapter of the Sierra Club.

My first experience with backpacking took place in mid-March seven years ago in the Paddy Creek area. Because I carried about twice as much weight as needed, I strained my left knee by the end of the first day. It started snowing during breadfast the next morning and snowed heavily all day. Although I had a lot of pain all day, I learned the value of getting away to a wilderness area, because I came out of the weekend in a very relaxed state of mind.

My introduction to the Irish Wilderness came a couple of years later. I was to lead a backpacking trip on the White's Creek Trail in early April. The week before, I went down to scout out the trail beforhand, so I drove down on a Friday evening, slept and started hiking. I finished the twenty some odd miles shortly after dark. The reason for doing it as a day hike was the agreement I had made with my wife to be gone from home only one weekend per month, which I'm sure you all can appreciate. I found the Irish to be a large area where solitude abounds.

However, I don't want to leave you with the idea that these wilderness areas should be preserved just for so-called "elitist" backpackers. In spite of what some people would have you believe, Wilderness is not a single use in a multiple use National Forest. In the Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek areas, only mining, timbering and non-existent grazing would be prohibited. Other uses would still be available. These would include the following:

1. Both have access points with facilities for picnicing. They are used frequently by a number of local families.
2. Many people use the Paddy Creek area for day hiking, often camping in the Forest Service campground on the border of the area. Many other people use the Irish for day hiking after camping nearby.
3. For photagraphers, the opportunities are unlimited. Both areas are very scenic. Both have a wide variety of plants and animals to photograph.
4. As more and more people rediscover nature, more people turn to nature study. They have learned, as I have, that the more you know about plants, animals, and rocks, the more enjoyable the outdoor experience becomes.
5. The areas are both open to and used by horseback riders. They are big enough for both horses and hikers with little or no conflict.
6. Both areas would be open to walk-in hunting, which

many hunters consider a quality experience. The rest of the National Forest would still be open to drive-in hunting. Last fall I was hiking in the newly designated Rockpile Mountain Wilderness in eastern Missouri during turkey season. As we were hiking in, we met a hunter on his way out carrying a beautiful male gobbler. We also met several other hunters who were enjoying themselves and had pleasant conversations with all of them.

7. Canoeing is also an experience related to these areas. The Irish is adjacent to the Eleven Point River in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. We have led outings that combined canoeing the Eleven Point and hiking in the Irish. The Big Piney River runs close by the Paddy Creek area and is also a good float stream.
8. Caving is another available activity, as there are several caves in the Irish Wilderness.

There are many other reasons for designating the Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek as Wilderness, which are being covered by others here. There are no other areas of higher quality in Missouri. Both provide a high degree of solitude, which is a prime quality for a Wilderness area. There is nowhere else in Missouri than the Irish where one could hope to see a black bear or a cougar.

The Sierra Club believes the most important reason for designation of these areas is that so little of the land in Missouri has been preserved--well under 1%. Wilderness is a part of our heritage. We cannot afford to lose it for short-term gain. There are only a handful of public owned areas that are large enough to even consider. Of those, the Irish and Paddy Creek are the only ones that are eligible.

In conclusion, there just is no good reason not to designate the Irish and Paddy Creek areas as Wilderness. We have no shortage of good timber in Missouri at all. Neither is there a shortage of lead. It appears to us the main reason the mining industry is interested in the Irish Wilderness is just that it is a large block of publicly owned land. It is much less expensive to core drill on publicly owned land and much less expensive to mine if any lead is found.

Gentlemen, the Sierra Club asks you to please approve Senate Bill 1964 designating the Irish Wilderness and Senate Bill 1965 designating Paddy Creek as Wilderness.

Thank you.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you. Mr. Chrisinger.

STATEMENT OF DAN CHRISINGER, GEOLOGIST, PORT TOWNSEND, WASH.

Mr. CHRISINGER. Thank you.

Since there has been some dispersions cast upon my credentials I'd like to mention a few. I've also submitted for the record a copy of the report which I'd like to have included.

First of all, I've worked for Exxon in the minerals division in Utah, in the exploration of lead and silver deposits. I've worked for Gulf Minerals in Canada and there I helped develop exploration procedures which led to the discovery and development of the largest uranium deposit in Saskatchewan. Additionally, I've worked for the Government of Mexico. It is equivalent to the Geological Survey of the United States. While there I was personally responsible for the exploration and discovery of copper and nickel deposits.

It is my feeling as a geologist that often Congress is asked to make decisions based upon scant scientific information. Again, I feel you're being asked to make a decision based on unsubstantiated statements from one mining company.

My career has been dedicated to finding deposits. In particular my examination of southeast Missouri and its lead deposits indicate the Irish Wilderness is no more likely to contain economically developable lead deposits than any other area of southeast Missouri.

The so-called Viburnum trend is located in southern Missouri and was discovered by drilling north from the Irish Wilderness to the now operating mine. That mine is 35 miles north of the Irish Wilderness. Nothing of note was discovered in that space and distance.

The trend itself is only 49 miles.

Additionally, the location of the Irish Wilderness has been drilled on all sides. There has been drilling all the way into Arkansas, and again nothing of note has been discovered in that particular area.

The ore deposits of southeast Missouri are roughly a horseshoe shape. We are now being asked to believe that we can just project a straight line and end up with deposits being found only in the Irish Wilderness. Again, I do not believe that is a geologically sound method to go about doing this.

The exploration of any metal deposit is difficult in the sense that we have to base the information upon many pieces of geological data. It was stated that my information is 5 years old. I believe that the information basically is millions of years old, as many of those lead deposits were formed at that time, and the information is there.

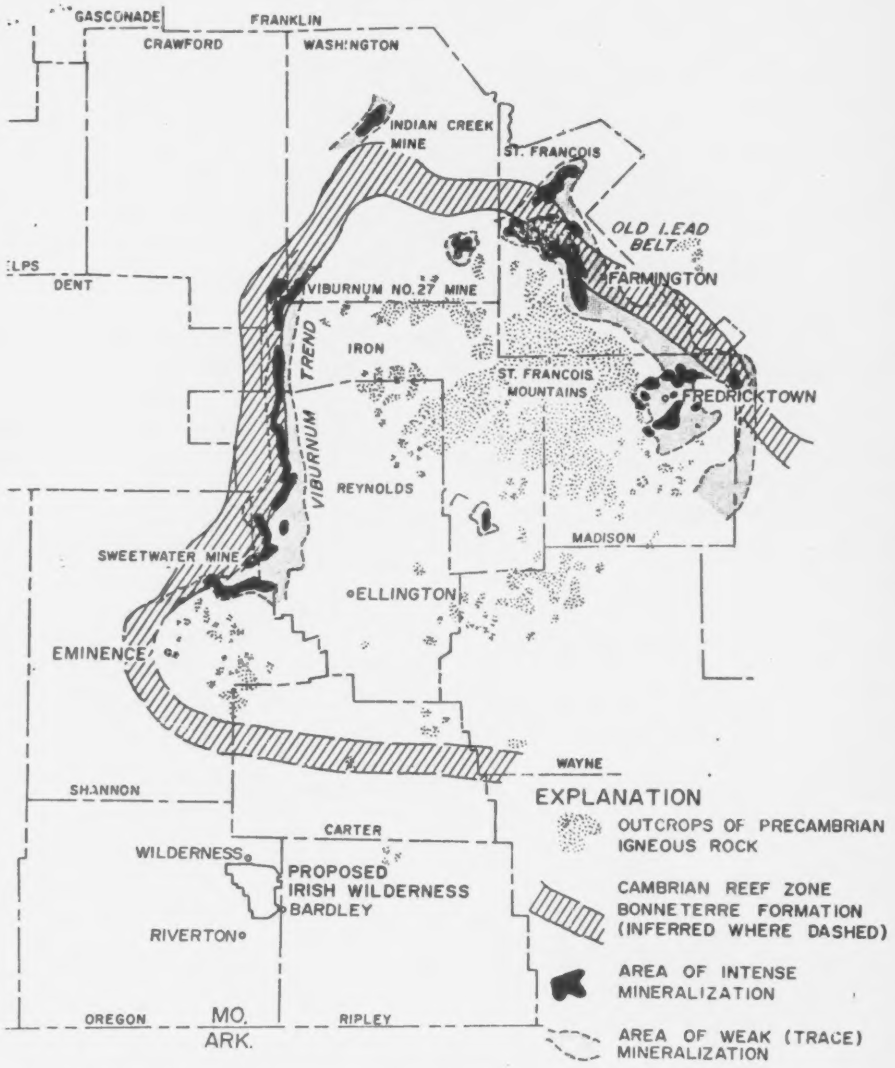
One thing of particular note at this time is the lead market is horribly depressed. We have large stockpiles of lead. There is no current need for additional lead deposits, and if I were to be heading the company I would think that would be one of the places I would last look.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Chrisinger follows:]

Prepared Statment of D. L. Chrisinger

THE FEASIBILITY OF ORE GRADE MINERALIZATION IN THE PROPOSED IRISH WILDERNESS, OREGON COUNTY, MO.


GASCONADE
FRANKLIN
CRAWFORD
WASHINGTON
INDIAN CREEK MINE
ST. FRANCOIS
OLD LEAD BELT
FARMINGTON
LPS
DENT
VIBURNUM NO.27 MINE
VIBURNUM TREND
IRON
ST. FRANCOIS MOUNTAINS
FREDRICKTOWN
REYNOLDS
MADISON
SWEETWATER MINE
ELLINGTON
EMINENCE
WAYNE
SHANNON
CARTER
WILDERNESS
PROPOSED IRISH WILDERNESS
BARDLEY
RIVERTON
OREGON
MO.
ARK.
RIPLEY
EXPLANATION
OUTCROPS OF PRECAMBRIAN IGNEOUS ROCK
CAMBRIAN REEF ZONE BONNETERRE FORMATION (INFERRED WHERE DASHED)
AREA OF INTENSE MINERALIZATION
AREA OF WEAK (TRACE) MINERALIZATION
SCALE
0 5 10 15 20 25 MILES

RELATIONSHIP OF MINERALIZED ZONES
TO THE
PROPOSED IRISH WILDERNESS
IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

AFTER KISVARSANYI (1977)
AND LARSEN (1977)

INTRODUCTION

The proposed IRISH WILDERNESS comprises approximately 19,000 acres in north-eastern Oregon County, Missouri (in sections 1-18, 20-23, 25-29 and 33-35 in Range 2 West, Township 24 North). This tract is bound on the west by the Eleven Point National Scenic River and on the east by State Highway J. The nearest towns are Wilderness (one-half mile to the north), Bardley (near the south-eastern boundary) and Riverton (two and three-quarter miles to the south-southeast). Approximately 98 percent of the area drains to the Eleven Point River on the west and the remaining two percent to the Current River to the east.

The bedrock in this area consists of cherty dolomites, sandy dolomites, sandstones and limestones (Thacker, 1977). The uplands of the Irish Wilderness and surrounding areas contain numerous sink-holes which are indicative of well developed karst topography. In addition, there are approximately fifteen caves within the area (Vineyard, 1973). Surface water enters this groundwater system by percolation through the thin surficial soils, sink holes, solution joints and losing streams. This water then recharges local aquifers. A portion of this water surfaces as springs and some discharges into the Eleven Point River.

GEOLOGIC HISTORY

Approximately 1.5 billion years ago, the St. Francois Mountains were formed north-east of the proposed Irish Wilderness. At numerous sites, volcanic materials were extruded to the surface, some explosively. Rhyolitic flows and ashes consolidated and were intruded by granites. These pre-Cambrian igneous rocks were buckled at the center, forming a dome. The margins of this dome began to sink. This new land mass was then subjected to tilting, block faulting and approximately one billion years of weathering (Kisvarsanyi, 1977). Eventually a surface with 2,000 feet of relief formed. Thus, the pre-Cambrian highland projected above the eastward sloping crust of the earth. This north-east trending, pre-Cambrian topography dipped steeply away from its central mass, the St. Francois Mountains (Kisvarsanyi, 1975).

Approximately 530 million years ago the sea transgressed into this area and began to rework the materials which had been loosened by almost one billion years of weathering. The low lying areas were partially filled with up to 400 feet of Lamotte sediment, the Lamotte Sandstone. As the seashore continued to migrate northward, many of the knobs were inundated. Thus, an archipelago was formed and the marine sediments (Bonneterre Formation) were dominantly limestones (Gerdemann, 1972). The buried topography controlled sedimentation patterns and thicknesses (Kisvarsanyi, 1977). Around the buried and partially buried knobs, lime secreting algae (digitate stromatolites) formed, fringing barrier and atoll 'reefs.' (As Larsen (1973) asserts, these areas should be referred to as organic buildups or banks and not reefs. Since the term 'reef' is used within the mining district, this author will use that term). The sea continued to deepen and the reefs grew upward.

Eventually, a horse shoe-shaped barrier reef fringed the St. Francois Mountain highlands (Gerdemann, 1972). Northwest winds and currents (Howe, 1968; Gerdemann, 1972; Kurtz, 1975; Larsen, 1977) were dominant and are responsible for the steepness of reef formation to the north and west of this highland. The digitate stromatolite reef facies is not as well developed on the south side (Larsen, 1977). On the back side of the reef, a quieter, shallow water environment prevailed. This area collected mud which was intensely burrowed by organisms. Within these shallow waters, blue green algae (planar stromatolites) fluorished (Gerdemann, 1972).

ORE BODY DEVELOPMENT

The various facies (rock types) of the Bonneterre Formation provided suitable physical and chemical conditions for mineralization.

The porous reef structure, associated reef debris and the underlying Lamotte Sandstone provided a system through which ore bearing fluids could travel. The back-reef facies became enriched with lead and zinc which were extracted from the sea by the blue-green algae (Davis, 1977). Blue-green algae may extract lead from solution in water and produce concentrations which are 5,000 times more enriched than their surroundings (Gale, 1974). According to Davis and others (1977), the back-reef area could have become an area of evaporation which would have produced magnesian rich brines. These brines then traveled downward and seaward, causing dolomitization of the back reef and reef facies. Dolomitization released metals from the algal limestones. These metal bearing, Na-Ca-Cl brines continued seaward through permeable strata until they reached zones of vertical permeability. Davis (1977) then concludes that these metals were precipitated when they encountered sulfides in the bank facies. Although objections may be raised against this mode of ore formation, the evidence clearly shows that the ore bodies are closely associated with reef-bank facies near pre-Cambrian knobs. These lead ores also include zinc and copper (Weigel, 1965).

Other areas of disseminated copper mineralization have also been found to exist within the pre-Cambrian igneous rocks or their Paleozoic sedimentary derivations. These areas of mineralization are generally small and of low grade. They are seldom mined unless they are associated with large lead bodies such as at Boss-Bixby (Kisvarsanyi, 1977).

MINERAL POTENTIAL OF THE IRISH WILDERNESS

The proposed Irish Wilderness area lies southwest of the St. Francois Mountains. The Old Lead Belt borders the east-northeast flank of these mountains. The New Lead Belt, the Viburnum Trend, lies to the west. This trend strikes north-south over its developed length. All of the lead deposits within these areas are intimately associated with the major barrier reef or fringe reefs which formed in the Bonneterre Formation and with pre-Cambrian knobs (Weigel, 1965; Wharton, 1975; Kisvarsanyi, 1977). Nevertheless, not all portions of the reef or all the knobs are associated with mineralization. In fact, very large gaps of non-mineralized reef exist between Fredricktown and Farmington in the Old Lead Belt.

Another large barren area exists between the Old Lead Belt and the northern end of the Viburnum Trend. Within the Viburnum Trend, barren areas exist between ore bodies. Ore in the southern portion of the trend is less continuous than ore in the north (Weigel, 1965). It may be concluded that there are fewer productive miles of reef than there are barren miles of reef.

Exploration along the Viburnum, northward from Shannon County, led to the discovery of an orebody in 1962. This deposit, now being mined by Ozark Lead Company, is located thirteen miles northwest of Ellington, Missouri in Reynolds County (Sec. 22, T31N, R2W) and is the most southern operating mine in the Viburnum Trend (Mouat, 1977). One acknowledged ore body exists three and one-half miles southwest (Sec. 31, T31N, R2W) of Ozark Lead's Sweetwater Mine (Kisvarsanyi, 1977). These ore bodies are associated with a pre-Cambrian ridge.

Exploration has continued in this area during the last sixteen years. In fact, exploration has reportedly been extended into Arkansas in an effort to discover mineralization, ore bodies and the reef. The results of this exploration have not been made public.

With respect to the proposed Irish Wilderness, the southern most acknowledged ore body is approximately thirty-five miles north. The entire Viburnum Trend, beginning at Viburnum No. 27 and ending at the ore body three and one-half miles south of the Sweetwater Mine, is thirty-eight miles in length. Additionally, as the trend continues southward, the mineralized zone of the Bonneterre becomes progressively deeper.

With the knowledge that the reef and its associated facies were strongly influenced by pre-Cambrian topography, a reasonable projection of the reef would be to the south-southeast. To project the reef southward, away from the pre-Cambrian knobs with which it is so closely associated, is geologically unsound. There is no geologic evidence that the reef or lead mineralization occurs in the area proposed as the Irish Wilderness.

CONCLUSIONS

1. The Irish Wilderness is thirty five miles south of the closest known ore body; this gap is almost as great as the entire known length of the Viburnum Trend.
2. The barrier reef bank has not been found in the Irish Wilderness Area. To project the reef structure (or the ore bodies) thirty five miles is geologically unacceptable.
3. The probability of finding ore close to the end of the Viburnum Trend is much greater than finding ore in the Irish Wilderness thirty five miles to the south.
4. The probability of finding the reef in an area northeast of the Irish Wilderness is greater than finding it in the Irish Wilderness.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Bore holes should be made, either along the margins or within the proposed wilderness area. The data from these holes would permit sound management decisions.

   These bore holes should be sited by area mine geologists, personnel from the U.S. Forest Service and members of the Department of Natural Resources.
2. The state of Missouri should require that all drill logs be made available to the Department of Natural Resources - Division of Geology and Land Survey.

REFERENCES

David, James H., 1977, Genesis of the southeast Missouri lead deposits: Econ. Geol., v. 72, p. 443-450.

Gale, N.L., Hardie, M.G., Whitfield, J., and Marcellus, P., 1974, The impact of lead mine and mill effluent on aquatic life: AIME 47th Ann. Mtg. of the Mining Section, and 35th Ann. Mining Symposium, January 16-18, 1974, Proc.

Gerdemann, P.E., and Myers, H.E., 1972, Relationships of carbonate facies patterns to ore distribution and to ore genesis in the Southeast Missouri lead district: Econ. Geol., v. 67, p. 426-433.

Howe, W.B., 1968, Planar stromatolite and buried carbonate mud facies in Cambrian strata of the St. Francois Mountain area: Missouri Geol. Survey of Water Resources Rept. Inv. 41, 113 p.

Kisvarsanyi, Eva B., 1975, Data on pre-Cambrian in drillholes of Missouri including rock type and surface configuration: Rept. Inv. No. 56, Contribution to pre-Cambrian Geology No. 5.

Kisvarsanyi, Geza, 1977, The role of the pre-Cambrian igneous basement in the formation of the stratabound lead-zinc-copper deposits in Southeast Missouri: Econ. Geol., v. 72, p. 435-442.

Kurtz, V. E., Thacker, J. L., Anderson, K. H., and Gerdemann, P.E., 1975, Traverse in Late Cambrian strata from the St. Francois Mountains, Missouri to Delaware County Oklahoma: Missouri Geol. Survey Rept. Inv. 55, 112 p.

Larsen, K. G., 1973, Depositional environments of the Bonneterre Formation in Southeast Missouri - an example of eperic sea sedimentation (abstr.): Geol. Soc. America Abstracts with Programs, v. 5, no. 4, p. 330-331.

——, 1977, Sedimentology of the Bonneterre Formation, Southeast Missouri: Econ. Geol., v. 72, p. 408-419.

Mouat, M.M. and Clendin, C.W., Geology of the Ozark Lead Mine, Viburnum Trend, Southeast Missouri: Econ. Geol., v. 72, p. 398-407.

Thacker, Joseph L. and Anderson, Kenneth H., 1977, The geologic setting of the Southeast Missouri lead district - regional geologic history, structure, and stratigraphy: Econ. Geol., v. 72, p. 339-318.

Vineyard, Jerry D., 1973, Catalog of the caves of Missouri: Missouri Speleological Survey, 178 p.

Weigel, W.W., 1965, The inside story of Missouri's exploration boom - Part I: Engineering and Mining Journal, v. 66, no. 11, p. 77.

Wharton, Heyward M., 1975, Introduction to the Southeast Missouri lead district: in Guidebook to the geology and ore deposits of selected mines in the Viburnum Trend, Missouri, Wharton, Heyward M., et al., 1975, Mo. Dept. of Nat. Resources, Geological Survey, Rept. Inv. 58, 60 p.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you very much.

Just one point of clarification. You said the Irish Wilderness is no more likely than any other area of southeast Missouri to contain lead deposits. Is it less likely?

Mr. CHRISINGER. That would be very difficult to say.

Senator WALLOP. So it's as much a potential as any other and as little potential as any other?

Mr. CHRISINGER. It has as little potential as any other.

I think it's worth noting that I know of one hole which was reported just in the House hearings on Monday. That was on the northern border of the Irish Wilderness and the representatives of the St. Joseph Lead Co. have indicated they found no indications of economical lead deposits in that particular hole.

Senator WALLOP. That in itself—that wouldn't be conclusive, would it? I mean, I don't know about lead. I don't know very much about anything geological. But surely it would take more than one hole to confirm or deny the existence of a trend or deposit.

Mr. CHRISINGER. This is very true. I think the fact that the trend at this time is located in a particular type of host rock and that host rock was developed on the fringes, let's say, in a toll, 500 million years ago, that when you start tracing out, let's say, the extension of that particular range, it does not extend as far south as the Irish Wilderness.

Senator WALLOP. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. Strong?

STATEMENT OF BOB STRONG, PRESIDENT, MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE OZARK SOCIETY, CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO.

Mr. STRONG. My name is Bob Strong. I'm a resident of Cape Girardeau in southeast Missouri. I'm also president of the chapter of the Ozark Society in Cape Girardeau.

Thomas talked about the recreational aspects of the Irish Wilderness and I would like to talk about what I would term the recreation aspects of the Irish Wilderness.

Although I'm representing the Ozark Society today, my testimony reflects my personal beliefs. With the economy in such bad shape there is valid concern about business recovery and jobs, yet I feel we're beginning to look at everything in terms of dollars and cents. How far do we go? Do we start to demolish our churches and synagogues to build stores on the ground?

To play the devil's advocate, why shouldn't we? Churches don't produce anything. They don't provide any jobs except to ministers. They don't even pay property taxes and in many of our cities they occupy prime real estate.

Fortunately, most people understand the need for churches. They provide a sanctuary where we can go to get away from the pressures of the world and renew our contact with God. If we hold such reverence for places of worship that we humans have built, why can't we have such reverence for wilderness areas as sanctuaries that God Himself has built? These, too, are places where we can truly get away from civilization and renew our contact with God.

This for me is the specific value of the Irish Wilderness; and I am not alone. The area takes its name from a band of Irish settlers who first went there in 1856 for that reason. Father John Hogan chose the place and led them there. His feelings mirror mine, "The quiet solitariness of the place seemed to inspire devotion. Nowhere could the human soul so profoundly worship as in the depths of that leafy forest, beneath the swaying branches of the lofty oaks and pines, where solitude and the heart of man united in praise and wonder of the Great Creator."

Some may think the Irish Wilderness is a pretty ordinary bunch of woods. How ornate does a church have to be before they are inspired to devotion? It is precisely that vastness of trees and quiet solitariness that inspires devotion.

Is it such an unusual view to regard a wilderness area as a place of worship that God himself has made for us? Perhaps so; there was an unusual young man who felt the same way. A book about his life has some interesting passages:

> And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed. (Luke 5: 16)
>
> And . . . He went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. (Luke 6: 12)
>
> And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. (Matt. 14: 23)
>
> And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed. (Mark 1: 35).

Or as related in Luke 4: 42:

> And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place.

The man, of course, was Jesus Christ. John the Baptist lived, preached, and baptized in the wilderness. He baptized Jesus there. This to me is the most compelling reason why the Irish Wilderness should be protected. Father John Hogan first felt the reverence it inspired over a century ago. It still provides "a setting where, amid the awe, silence, and solitude, we can gather our spiritual bearings. The wilderness remains for us as it was for Jesus, the God-given house of prayer."

That quote comes from an article entitled, "The Wilderness: Encounters with Divinity," in the November 29, 1981, issue of the magazine, Christianity Today. I ask that it be included with my testimony.

Senator WALLOP. I thank you very much. I appreciate your testimony.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Strong follows:]

My name's Bob Strong and I'm a resident of Cape Girardeau in Southeast Missouri. As a hiker I feel fortunate that there are still a few remaining areas of wilderness left in the Ozarks. Many of us in the Ozarks share the same interest of hiking and canoeing as well as a concern for the protection of wilderness areas. Some of us have joined an organization called the Ozark Society with chapters in Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Louisianna. I am president of the chapter in Cape Girardeau which has 51 members.

Although I am representing the Ozark Society today, my testimony reflects my personal feelings. With the economy in such bad shape, there is a valid concern about business recovery and jobs. Yet I fear we are beginning to look at everything in terms of dollars and cents. How far do we go? Do we start to demolish our churches and synagogues to build stores on their ground? To play the devil's advocate, why shouldn't we? Churches don't produce anything. They don't provide any jobs except the minister's. They don't even pay any property taxes and in many of our cities they occupy prime real estate. Fortunately, most people understand the need for churches. They provide a sanctuary where we can go to get away from the pressures of the world and renew our contact with God. If we hold such reverence for places of worship that we humans have built, why can't we have such reverence for wilderness areas as sanctuaries that God himself has built? These, too, are places where we can truly get away from civilization and renew our contact with God.

This for me is the specific value of the Irish Wilderness; and I am not alone. The area takes its name from a band of Irish settlers who first went there in 1856 for that reason. Father John Hogan chose the place and led them there. His feelings mirror mine, "The quiet solitariness of the place seemed to inspire devotion. Nowhere could the human soul so profoundly worship as in the depths of that leafy forest, beneath the swaying branches of the lofty oaks and pines, where solitude and the heart of man united in praise and wonder of the Great Creator." Some may think the Irish Wilderness is a pretty ordinary bunch of woods. How ornate does a church have to be before they are inspired to devotion? It is precisely that vastness of trees and quiet solitariness that inspires devotion.

Is it such an unusual view to regard a wilderness area as a place of worship that God himself has made for us? Perhaps so; there was an unusual young man who felt the same way. A book about his life has some interesting passages:

"And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed" (Luke 5:16)

"And...he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God" (Luke 6:12)

"And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone" (Matt. 14:23)

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed" (Mark 1:35). Or as related in Luke 4:42, "And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place."

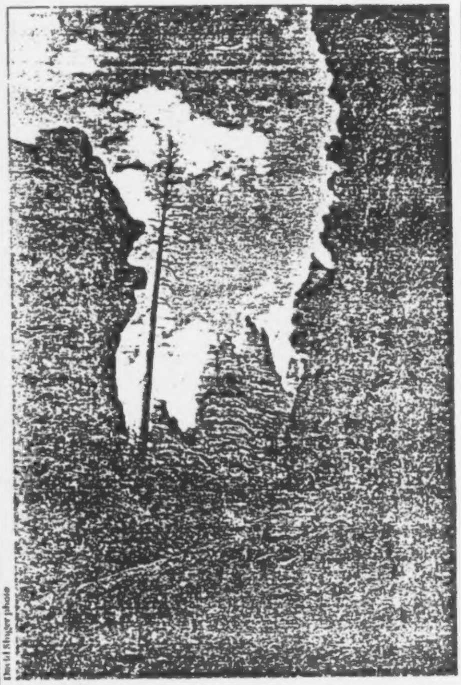
The man, of course, was Jesus Christ. John the Baptist lived, preached, and baptized in the wilderness. He baptized Jesus there. This to me is the most compelling reason why the Irish Wilderness should be protected. Father John Hogan first felt the reverence it inspired over a century ago. It still provides "a setting where, amid the awe, silence, and solitude, we can gather our spiritual bearings. The wilderness remains for us, as it was for Jesus, the God-given house of prayer."

That quote comes from an article entitled, "The Wilderness: Encounters with Divinity," in the November 20, 1981, issue of the magazine, Christianity Today. I ask that it be included with my testimony.

The Wilderness
Encounters with Divinity

DAVID W. DOUGLAS

Solitude and infinite majesty dispel any notions of self-sufficiency.



David Singer photo

FROM ITS EDGE, I stood looking out over the Judean wilderness. In the summer evening, maroon shadows spilled across the hills. The desert was empty of man.

Two thousand years earlier, Jesus had fasted and faced Satan in this arena. Few New Testament passages are more familiar than that 40-day sojourn, and as I looked out into the crucible of sand and rock, I recalled other, lesser-known gospel accounts of Jesus venturing alone into country perhaps not as remote as this, but still mountain and desert beyond the outskirts of villages:

"And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed" (Luke 5:16).

"And . . . he went out into a mountain to pray, and cor tinued all night in prayer to God" (Luke 6:12).

"And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went u into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening w come, he was there alone" (Matt. 14:23).

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before d he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and the prayed" (Mark 1:35). Or, as related in Luke 4:42, "Ar when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place'

On these occasions, Jesus was not seeking simply a refu from the crowds, though wilderness could provide such sanctuary (as recorded in Mark 1:45 and John 6:15 Rather, Jesus was here using the mountain and desert for purpose the gospel writers make explicit: prayer. The cou try beyond the edge of civilization was the setting Jes chose for prayer.

These verses provide more than topographical color or bridge in the gospel narrative. They offer, I believe, a clue prayer and the way wilderness—both first-century Jude and twentieth-century American—can serve as a house prayer.

I had a hint of this long before I became acquainted w the New Testament. While I would have been unable to voke a scriptural passage for support, my days in the wild ness had shown me that there, in mountain, forest, or sar stone canyon, prayer flourished.

I was slow to see why this was. I recall numerous tr through back country where I was simultaneously trem lous and exhilarated—overcome, as C. S. Lewis once wro of numinous awe, with "wonder and a certain shrinking. was a rather benighted state. I would irregularly break silence with laughter, then glance hastily about to see had startled any fellow backpacker.

ONE AUTUMN NIGHT as I lay in a sleeping ba identified what it was that for years wildern had been stirring within me: it was a sens my own vulnerability, of my own fragility transience. This perception had a profoundly disquiet effect: it dislodged my notion of self-sufficiency, replacin with a sense of dependence on God. Pride gave way prayer. This was caused in part simply by the solitude silence of the wildeness. Theologian Henri Nouwen written that in solitude "a rebellious heart turns into a c

NOV 20, '81

trite heart." And where can extended solitude—isolation from distractions and the daily centrifugal forces that keep us off balance—be so readily encountered as in the wilderness?

On hiking trips I have taken alone, often into the desert canyons of the southwest, prayer has become a virtual companion. I have walked for miles past cliffs of burgundy sandstone, the walls suspended like 500-foot-high tapestries embroidered by waterfalls, and come across no one for days. I have found myself praying on scores of occasions in that solitude, prayers of petition for my continued well-being, prayers of thanks for my sight and mobility. Normally merely dutiful and absentminded, my prayers in the wilderness have become expressions of impassioned clarity.

But prayer is also triggered by another gift of the wilderness, even more important than solitude: fear. It is fear of broken terrain and unknown wildlife beyond our ability to control. It is a fear that breeds awe and reverence: healthy, judicious, pride-puncturing fear. A wilderness traveler walks through country so finely crafted or terrifyingly gargantuan that any lingering agnosticism can burn off as quickly as a morning's skiff of frost.

A friend often recites to me a litany of dangers lurking in the back country, a list headed by "rattlesnakes," urging them all as good reasons for staying home. But it is precisely that uncertainty, that possible peril, that distance we walk away from electric lights and hospitals that is the value of wilderness. We do become fearful. Our well-being is precarious. We enter briefly an arena where illusions of self-sufficiency become unraveled. And it is in this state that we are inclined to turn to prayer, to listen to someone beyond ourselves. It is not that God reveals himself more clearly in wilderness. It is that there, in the ringing silence, we are more likely to hear him.

THIS IS THE CRITICAL distinction between wilderness and the tamer, pastoral nature of gardens or parks. All nature may offer hints of God's handiwork, but only in the wilderness is there terrain whose scale reduces us to awe. The remaining pockets of wild country remind us that we are not the Creator.

God's use of wilderness as a stage for humbling has deep Old Testament roots, the Sinai wandering led by Moses being a single, epic example. For 40 years, the ancient Hebrews found their sustenance each morning on the desert floor. There was a portion of manna for each person, but it was impossible to store. And what was God's stated purpose? To instill in the generation raised in the desert a sense of complete, and daily, dependence on him. Delusions of self-sufficiency fared poorly in the Sinai.

I recently heard a minister preach with irony on our contemporary dependence on God, offering as one example the "hospital phenomenon," his title for the dramatic metamorphosis undergone by parishoners entering the confines of a hospital. He said he was consistently startled by the speed with which patients, their mortality underscored by sickness, placed themselves in God's hands. Casual faith, he noted, became passionate.

All of us can cite examples of this. But surely there is something ungrateful about waiting for disease or other crises to remind us how completely we rely on God. That is like the sailors in Shakespeare's *The Tempest* who cry out, "All's lost! To prayers, to prayers. All's lost!"

And this is where wilderness enters in. By its landscape and solitude, by the fear and awe it summons up, the wilderness ignites prayer when we are upright on our two feet in gratitude, and not on our knees in despair.

I have been surprised by the number of pastors and Christian laymen I've met who have neglected the importance of wild country. They—who should have recalled that wilderness was historically the place of covenant between man and God, that it was the mountain and desert to which Jesus repeatedly chose to withdraw for solitude and prayer—have tended to view wilderness as merely a metaphor instead of an actual spiritual reservoir that can still be visited.

Just as Jesus retreated alone throughout his ministry, so there is value in our making similar sojourns whenever possible. Such a venture is not without difficulties, particularly for those who live far from wilderness areas, or who are physically disabled. Fortunately, the number of programs designed to make the wilderness available to inner-city residents, as well as persons with handicaps, are increasing. People heretofore prevented from visiting forest, mountain, or desert can now personally examine John Muir's exuberant claim that "while God's glory is written all over his work, in wilderness the letters are capitalized."

In recent years, my journeys into the back country have slowed somewhat. Commitments, I tell myself. Family. But at least once a year I don hiking boots and cross the threshold, letting evening find me camped beside a stream. In the lavender twilight, while waiting for the stars to come out, I occasionally recall conversations with acquaintances who believed wilderness was "unproductive" and "outside the market economy" and, as such, dispensable. I would respond quickly, citing a host of reasons why the wilderness should be preserved. I would bring up its value for recreation, for wildlife and watershed, for psychological growth and biological research.

But now I would add another reason, to me the most compelling, why the wilderness should be prized: its spiritual value; its ability to trigger prayer by instilling in us a fearsome and grateful sense of dependence on God. The remaining islands of wild country provide a setting where, amid the awe, silence, and solitude, we can gather our spiritual bearings. The wilderness remains for us, as it was for Jesus, the God-given house of prayer. ☐

David Douglas, an attorney, is also a free-lance writer. He resides in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Senator **Wallop**. That does conclude the witness list, with 1 minute to spare. I appreciate each of you showing the courtesy to each other to summarize your statements so each could be heard. It's a long way to come and it's important that people who feel strongly enough get the opportunity to make their statements. I appreciate it.

The subcommittee will stand in adjournment.

[Whereupon, at 12:45 p.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

STATEMENT OF
SENATOR HARRISON H. SCHMITT

The Elena Gallegos land grant exchange is probably one of the most massive undertakings of its kind in the history of federal land transactions. The Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management have both performed sincerely with the interests of the United States taxpayer in mind as well as those communities in New Mexico which will be directly impacted by the land exchange.

I have believed from the outset that acquisition of this pristine land grant on the west face of the majestic Sandia Mountains by the U.S. Forest Service was necessary and within the scope of their responsibility. The plan for the government to acquire this land was a resourceful and challenging task for even the Federal government to undertake.

Participating in the Federal government's effort were two communities which cooperated, each with mutual needs, but both being interested in a successful land exchange. I speak of the fine cities of Las Cruces and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Albuquerque, valiantly passed a quarter percent gross receipts tax to purchase the Elena Gallegos Land Grant from the Albuquerque Boys Academy when it appeared that the academy might not want to agree to the exchange. Understandably, the Board of Directors of the Academy did not want to worry about scattered parcels of land throughout the State of New Mexico.

The City of Las Cruces had had its eyes on specific acreage near its limits for development as an industrial park for several years predating the Elena Gallegos issue. Despite the considerable controversy created by many misunderstandings resulting from the enormity of the proposed exchange, and despite an understandable feeling of fear that the city's control over the final disposition of the proposed industrial lands was being lost, the City of Las Cruces has borne its share of the responsibility by accepting the exchange as a vehicle by which they too can acquire land for their needs -- that is, the eventual development of an industrial park for the benefit of the local economy.

I recently met in Las Cruces with the various Federal agency officials, and elected officials from both the City of Albuquerque and the City of Las Cruces to come to grips with the present position of the exchange and how it affects their particular situations. The meeting was very helpful to each of the participants, and I believe a renewed spirit of cooperation was enkindled, and suspicions and fears were hopefully laid to rest. It is my conclusion based upon statements made at the meeting in Las Cruces by the Honorable Harry Kinney, Mayor of Albuquerque, that the City of Albuquerque wants to do its utmost to see that the City of Las Cruces' needs are considered and met. Likewise, I believe the City of Las Cruces is committed to work with the City of Albuquerque.

Within the ranks of the U.S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management are some of the most dedicated and productive members of our federal work force. My compliments to them as well as to Mr. Jean Hassell, Regional Forrester, and the New Mexico BLM State Director Bill Luscher, for their efforts to do what was best for all those who would be affected by the land exchange.

It is hoped that the Elena Gallegos land exchange will go down in history as an example in which local governments, private citizens, and the Federal government acted together for the betterment of our environment, as well as for the advancement of the economic progress of our state. In the end, wilderness land will be preserved, (Albuquerque has taken the bull by the horns to see to that); and the fast growing City of Las Cruces will have an industrial center to draw new industry and jobs to our state. That would truly be a benefit to the whole State of New Mexico and to the whole nation.

It is hoped that once the Elena Gallegos land exchange is completed, it will have been not only an end in itself, but a catalyst by which other positive ends were reached for the benefit of so many.

TESTIMONY ON S 1964 & S 1965

May 27, 1982

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Subcommittee on Public Lands and Reserved Water
Senator Malcom Wallop, Chairman

The Conservation Federation of Missouri, a private statewide organization of 27,000 sportsmen, outdoor recreationists, and conservationists, supports passage of S 1946.

For many years the Federation has supported inclusion of the "Irish Wilderness" in Oregon County into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Indeed, we were one of the first organizations to urge protection of this unique area.

After recent review and careful study by our Board of Directors and discussion at our Annual Meeting, we reiterate our position that the "Irish", more than any other Missouri area, should be added to the system to protect its wilderness character.

For Missourians the "Irish" symbolizes wilderness; and wilderness preservation efforts in the state will not be complete until it becomes part of the system.

The Irish is also the largest potential wilderness area in Missouri, comprising over 17,000 acres, and this, its size, along with its great diversity, and its aesthetic, historical, natural, and cultural values, beg for the additional protection provided by the national wilderness preservation system.

Fortunately, nearly all of the land involved is already in public ownership. It belongs to the people, and we believe the people desire this added protection to preserve this shining example of the Missouri Ozark Highlands.

The Conservation Federation is also strongly on record in support of wilderness designation for the Paddy Creek area, a small gem of an area comprising some 6,800 acres in Texas County.

Though once the hub of the Ozark sawtimber industry, wilderness has reclaimed the area, providing our citizens with perhaps the most aesthetic excursions of any area in the state. Over 20 caves and 50 springs have been identified within Paddy Creek and the exposed Roubidoux sandstone formations create interesting "boulder falls", box canyons and other interesting features. The 17-mile Big Piney Trail, one of Missouri's most popular hiking trails, wanders through the area.

Fortunately, there has been no significant opposition to the designation of Paddy Creek as wilderness.

Both the Irish and Paddy Creek are deserving to be named to the National Wilderness Preservation System and we ask your support of this bill.

AMAX INC.

Office of
Federal Affairs

1982 AUG 12 PM 12: 09

August 11, 1982

The Honorable Malcolm Wallop, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands & Reserved Water
3204 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Wallop:

Currently pending before the Public Lands Subcommittee is S. 1964, legislation to designate 17,562 acres in the Mark Twain National Forest as the Irish Wilderness.

Southeastern Missouri is the source of an estimated 90% of U.S. annual lead production, and indications are that the area known as the Irish Wilderness may contain significant lead-zinc deposits. During the RARE II process, the U.S. Forest Service identified this area for further planning specifically because of its mineral potential.

Administrative restrictions since passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act have largely thwarted mineral exploration in wilderness areas. While wilderness additions have nearly tripled the Wilderness System in the lower 48 states since 1964, we have learned very little about the mineral potential of these areas.

Modern exploration practices do not degrade wilderness values, and mining can be done in an environmentally responsible manner. With the increased U.S. dependence on foreign sources of energy and metallic minerals, this nation cannot afford to waste the valuable resources it has. We urge you not to enact Irish Wilderness legislation until all multiple-use options have been fully considered.

Very truly yours,

John H. Paul
Director, Government Affairs

AMAX Inc. • 1101 Connecticut Avenue N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 466-6966

AMERICAN WILDERNESS ALLIANCE
4260 East Evans Avenue • Suite 8 • Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 758-5018

1982 JUN -8 PM 12:57

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Sally A. Ranney
President
W. Mitchell
Vice-President
Nancy J. Borra
Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Bernard Shanks
Director-at-Large

BOARD OF ADVISORS
Dr. John Craighead
L.W. (Bill) Lane, Jr.
Francois Leydet
Martin Litton
Dr. Roderick Nash
Margaret Wentworth Owings
Eliot Porter
James A. Posewitz
Wallace Stegner

Executive Director
Clifton R. Merritt

Editorial Offices
Wild America
William A. Schneider
Editor
324 Fuller
Helena, Montana 59601

June 3, 1982

Senator Malcolm Wallop, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands and Reserved Water
of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wallop:

Please include this statement in the official record of your recent hearing on S. 1964, to establish the 17,562 acre Irish Wilderness in Missouri.

The American Wilderness Alliance is a national non-profit organization whose members are dedicated to promoting the conservation and wise use of the nation's decreasing wilderness, wildlife habitat and wild river resources.

Most of our Missouri members and I are familiar with the Irish Wilderness. It has a long history in the minds of Missouri citizens as the state's oldest and finest unprotected wilderness. This is signified in the name, Irish Wilderness, which the area has retained for decades. It is time that the unique area be given the lasting protection that only the Wilderness Act can provide.

The Irish Wilderness is important not only for its rich historical, cultural and undeveloped recreation uses, but also as irreplaceable habitat for certain species of wildlife that in the eastern half of the United States are considered to require essentially a wilderness environment to prosper or survive. Among these wilderness-dependent species found in the Irish Wilderness are the wild turkey, black bear and cougar.

Designation of the Irish Wilderness has met with some opposition because of an alleged potential for lead and zinc. If these minerals are present in the area, they are believed to be in deep-lying formations that could be difficult and costly to mine. Exploration and development of the minerals, if they do exist, would destroy irreplaceable wilderness. Lead and zinc are not in short supply. They are present and can be developed in many other areas without destroying wilderness.

Accordingly, we respectfully urge the prompt adoption and enactment of S. 1964.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments.

Sincerely,

Clifton R. Merritt

Clifton R. Merritt
Executive Director

CRM:ism

FTR

AMERICAN WILDERNESS ALLIANCE
4260 East Evans Avenue • Suite 8 • Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 758-5018

1982 JUN -8 PM 12:57

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Sally A. Ranney
President
W. Mitchell
Vice-President
Nancy J. Borra
Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Bernard Shanks
Director-at-Large

BOARD OF ADVISORS
Dr. John Craighead
L.W. (Bill) Lane, Jr.
Francois Leydet
Martin Litton
Dr. Roderick Nash
Margaret Wentworth Owings
Eliot Porter
James A. Posewitz
Wallace Stegner

Executive Director
Clifton R. Merritt

Editorial Offices
Wild America
William A. Schneider
Editor
324 Fuller
Helena, Montana 59601

June 3, 1982

Senator Malcolm Wallop, Chairman
Subcommittee on Public Lands and Reserved Water
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wallop:

I would appreciate it if you would include this letter in the official record of the recent hearing held on S. 1965, to establish the 6,888 acre Paddy Creek Wilderness in Missouri.

The American Wilderness Alliance is a national non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the conservation and wise use of the nation's decreasing wilderness, wildlife habitat and wild river resources.

Many of our Missouri members and cooperators are familiar with Paddy Creek and have used the area for wilderness purposes. I have hiked through the area and carefully observed its qualifications for a wilderness classification. There is no question in our minds that the tract meets the 1964 Wilderness Act requirements and should be added promptly to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The area's potential for timber and mineral resources is low. The U.S. Forest Service has termed the wilderness quality of Paddy Creek as favorable in comparison with the four Missouri areas already designated as wilderness. Paddy Creek and Little Paddy Creek, both beautiful clear streams, drain the area. Streams, trails, rock outcrops and caves, as well as natural scenery, make the tract a popular hiking, riding, fishing, hunting and sightseeing area.

The American Wilderness Alliance respectfully urges prompt approval of S. 1965.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,

Clifton R. Merritt
Executive Director

cc: Senator John C. Danforth, Senator Thomas F. Eagleton

"We Don't Inherit the Earth from our Ancestors, We Borrow It from our Children."

MISSOURI LIMESTONE *Producers Association*

N. A. McDONALD, EXEC. MANAGER • 1982 JUN 11 PM 5: 18

GOVERNOR HOTEL • BOX 1726 • JEFFERSON CITY, MO. 65102 • PHONE (314) 635-0208

MLPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS — 1982

PRESIDENT
PAUL ROBERTS
Airok Quarries, Ltd.
Sugar Creek, Missouri

VICE-PRESIDENT
ROB BAIRD
Conco Quarries, Inc.
Springfield, Missouri

SECRETARY-TREASURER
DON LaBRAYERE
Missouri Limestone Co.
Warrenton, Missouri

DIRECTORS
PAUL ASSEL
Everett Quarries Co., Inc.
Plattsburg, Missouri

LARRY BECK
Beck Materials Co.
Jefferson City, Missouri

R. G. BUHS
Southeast Missouri Stone Co.
Cape Girardeau, Missouri

ROBERT COMPTON
Six Flags Materials Corp.
St. Louis, Missouri

WENDELL CURTMAN
Curtman Materials
Owensville, Missouri

PETER KASER
Kaser Corp.
Des Moines, Iowa

SAMUEL KRAUS, JR.
Auxvasse Stone & Gravel Co.
Auxvasse, Missouri

WILLIAM POWELL
Fred Weber, Inc.
St. Louis, Missouri

ROBERT TRAGER
Farmers Stone Trager Quarries, Inc.
Utica, Missouri

June 9, 1982

Honorable Malcolm Wallop
U. S. Senator
204 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Wallop:

This letter is in regard to the recently held hearings on the Irish Wilderness in the Paddy Creek area of the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri. Further comments will be limited to the Irish Wilderness area as part of the designation of RARE II lands.

Although the intent of establishing wilderness areas may have some merit, especially in the eyes of environmentalists and conservationalists, we question whether their concern for the establishment of a wilderness area in this instance has merit.

Our reasons for opposition at this time are as follows:

1. The area consists of potential mineral resources and the passage of federal law shuts off the opportunity for mining natural resources which may have strategic value for the population of this entire country.

2. There is reason to believe that there are major ore deposits within the Irish Wilderness area despite some geologist having made statements to the contrary.

3. In the establishment of wilderness areas there is simply no natural barrier that can be established that will prevent disease and insects from leaping into those areas of the Mark Twain National Forest from the area of the Irish Wilderness. This is extremely bad forest management.

37 *Years of Service and Progress*

"Representing the Crushed Stone Industry"

4. In our opinion, there is a neglect of consideration for those people who live within the proposed wilderness area and most of the affirmative opinion in the establishment of the Irish Wilderness comes from the people outside of the wilderness area and in particular from the City of St. Louis.

   We have recently had a situation in Missouri where the voters of the City of St. Louis turned down an opportunity of increasing truck weights to 80,000 pounds which is the maximum permitted by federal law; even though within the area of St. Louis these same people enjoy the privilege because of the commercial free zone regulation of the Missouri Public Service Commission to transport upwards of 100,000 pounds.

   Somewhere along the line, surely Congress must recognize that there must be a certain amount of respect for the residents of a given area and that their wishes cannot be totally ignored with the request of outspoken groups who do not have to live with the provisions of the law as passed by Congress.

   History and experience tells us that these same people advocating wilderness areas after legislation is passed never seem to take the opportunity of utilizing those provisions of the law for which the wilderness area is established in the first place.

   To ignore national security in procurement of raw natural resources places the entire country at a disadvantage and if our country is lost through such fallacious thinking, all else will be lost too, including the wilderness areas.

5. To amend the existing law if one should be passed establishing the Irish Wilderness to say that in a national emergency consideration could be given to exploring for natural resources is a time consuming situation that ultimately could be too late. If necessary, let's write into the law initially that the land could be explored for natural resources both before and during an emergency for whatever the purpose might be.

We thank you for your consideration in opposition to the Irish Wilderness bill as not being in the best interest of people in Missouri and all of the citizens of this country. Your interest in good government will indeed be appreciated.

Sincerely,

N. A. McDonald
Executive Manager

NAM:lo

FTR

Campers Chalet
210 SOUTH BELT HWY. • ST. JOSEPH, MO. 64506
Climbing Canoeing Equipment

Back Packing
Nordic & Downhill Skiing

Jerry Patton
3232 Primrose
St Joseph, Mo 64503

Chairman of the Senate
Sub Committee on Public
Lands & Reserve Water of the
Committee on Energy & Water
Resources.

Hon. Sen. Malcon Wallup

I am writing to express my concern for the passage of bills S.1964 & S.1965. These bills are very important to protect some of the last Wilderness land of Missouri. This issue is very important to myself & also the people of my area. I have followed these bills very Closly & Worked in conjunction with the Missouri Wilderness Coalation & I hope you will see this is a chance to save a small part of our state, to leave it in its natural state until we need to tap it for its resources. We need to save now so that we all can enjoy the part that this country was founded on Wild lands.

Thank You
Jerry Patton

Pursuant to notice duly given, the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHO ME STATE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION was held at the Courthouse, Lebanon, Missouri, beginning at 8 PM on March 12, 1982.

Ansel Coats gave the invocation & Charles Leick led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Upon a call of the roll a quorum was found to be present.

Minutes of the prior meeting were approved as mailed.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved. Ansel Coats moved acceptance and Harry Masters seconded, the report and approval of all bills presented.

The following Resolution was proposed jointly by Mr. Joe Cooke and Ansel Coats:

"The Sho Me State Heritage Association, a confederation of eleven active rural landowner associations in, southern, southeastern, and southwestern Missouri, favor the multi-purpose concept of public management of public lands.

THEREFORE, The Sho Me State Heritage Association opposes inclusion of the IRISH WILDERNESS, (Senate Bill S 1964) and PADDY CREEK WILDERNESS (Senate Bill S 1965) as wilderness areas excluding exploration for reserves of minerals and timber.

THE SHO ME STATE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION favors exploration in the designated IRISH WILDERNESS AND PADDY CREEK WILDERNESS areas to discover reserves of strategic materials for addition to national resources stockpile."

Joe Cook formally introduced the resolution, Ansel Coats seconded. Passed unanimously.

There being no further business to transact, HARRY MASTERS, acting chairman, called for nominations for officers for the year 1982-1983.

Chester Crewse moved that present officers be retained in office for the ensuing year. Ansel Coats and Jim Laughlin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The officers for the ensuing year are therefore, JOHN L HENSON, SR, Chairman; HARRY MASTERS, Vice Chairman; JUNIOR WILLIAMS, First Vice Chairman; CHARLES LEICK, Secretary; JUANITA LEICK, Treasurer; JIM NEVINS, Publicity Director, and MARCELLINE NICHOLS, Assistant Secretary.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM, with next meeting scheduled on May 15, 1982 at Lebanon, unless sooner called, or postponed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. LEICK
Secretary

The following resolution received unanimous passage during the Jan. 15, 1982 meeting of Local Citizens For Preservation of Rights in Ellington City Hall, Ellington, Missouri.

Our organization, as do many others in southern Missouri, favors the multi-purpose concept in the management of public lands. Presently, there is an abundance of thousands of acres of various wilderness areas in Missouri. Public need for forest production for energy demand is steadily increasing. Our nation is presently struggling to survive the energy crisis; we are also presently involved in a growing second crisis — a deficiency of strategic minerals. Increasing Wilderness areas can only heighten or intensify these perilous conditions.

Therefore, Local Citizens For Preservation of Rights opposes passage of both bills, S. 1964 — Irish Wilderness, and S. 1965 — Paddy Creek as introduced by Senator Eagleton and Senator Danforth, December 15, 1981. C. R. pages S 15367 - S 15369.

* *

The
Ozarks Hills and Rivers Landowners Association
Organized and Incorporated 1974
P.O. Box 103 - Alton, Mo. 65606

February 19, 1982

Honorable James A McClure
3121 Dirksen Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Sir:

Ozark Hills and Rivers Landowners Association of Alton, Missouri met on January 18, 1982 and unanimously passed a resolution for multi-purpose use of Irish Wilderness and Paddy Creek. These bills were introduced on December 15, 1981 — C. R. pages S 15367 - S 15369 — by Senators Eagleton and Danforth, and called for wilderness designation for both areas. This action would "lock up" or close nearly 24,000 acres of land from timber harvest, mining, and use of established roads. This is a policy of waste denying economic benefits for citizens on local, state, and national level. At present, there is nationally a shortage of energy sources and strategic minerals; and passage of bills S 1964 and S 1965 would perpetuate this situation. Therefore, the Ozark Hills and Rivers Landowners Association, as do other related groups across southern Missouri, oppose passage of both aforementioned bills.

May the high ideals of "A Great New Beginning" not be mocked by these two bills that are against the will and the interest of the majority of the people. We sincerely hope that both these bills will die in committee.

Very truly yours,

Joe Cooke

Joe Cooke, Vice-president
Ozark Hills and Rivers Landowners
Association

enclosure

SHO ME STATE HERITAGE ASSOCIATION
ROSTER OF MEMBER LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS

1. Bell Mountain Mineral Area Heritage Association
   Pres.-Betty Campbell, Belleview, Mo. 63623
   Sec.-Marcia Townsend, Box 140, Belleview, Mo. 63623

2. Big Piney River Watershed Improvement and Conservation
   Pres.-Ansil Coats, Star Rt. 4, Box 179, Houston, Mo. 65483, phone 417-967-3648

3. Bourbeuse River Association
   Pres.-T.M. Bud Suntrup, Rte. 2, Box 159A, St. Clair, Mo. 63077, phone 629-3321

4. Landowners Association Gasconade, Osage Fork Rivers
   Pres.-Chester Crewse, Graff, Mo. 65660, phone 417-668-5358
   Sec.-M. Nichols

5. Niangua Landowners Conservation Association
   Pres.-Roy Scott, Long Lane, Mo. 65690, phone 417-345-8134
   V. Pres.-Arlie Bramwell, Bennett Spring Rte. Lebanon, Mo. 65536, phone 417-532-4806

6. Ozark Landowners Association
   Delegate-Harry Masters, Rte. 2, Box 85, Fredericktown, Mo. 63645, phone 314-783-2528

7. Pulaski County Landowners Association
   Jim Nevins, Rte. 2, Box 119, Newburg, Mo. 65550, phone 314-762-2832

8. Rural Landowners Mutual Assistance Association
   Pres.-Charles R. Leick, Davisville, Mo. 65456, phone 314-743-6111

9. Southwest Missouri Property Rights Association
   Pres.-John L. Henson, Sr., Star Rte. Box 42, Pineville, Mo. 64856, phone 417-223-450

10. Southwest Landowners Association
    Delegate-Orville Johnson, Ava, Mo. 65608, phone 683-2098
    V. Pres.-Fred Paul, Oldfield, Mo. 65720

11. Ozarks Hills and Rivers Landowners' Association
    Pres.-Junior Williams, Rte. 2, Alton, Mo. 65606, phone 417-778-7150

Inactive Associations

1. Farmers and Ranchers
   Bob Hanneken, Rt. 1, Verona, Mo. 65769

2. Mid-Missouri Landowners Association
   Allen Bray, Vienna, Mo. 65582

3. Miller County Landowners Association
   Pat Fennewald, Meta, Mo. 65058
   Delegate-Gene Martin, Rte. 1, Iberia, Mo. 65486

4. Phelps County Landowners Association
   D. Eugene Smith, Rte. 2, Rolla, Mo. 65401, phone 314-762-2882

Buffalo River, Arkansas

Newton County Steering Committee for Landowners Rights
Conrad Villines, Chairman
Jasper, Ar. 72641

Society for the Preservation of Ozark Culture
Louis Gregoire, President
Pelsor, Ar. 72856

JOE RUSH
Ripley County Collector
DONIPHAN, MISSOURI 63935

May 21, 1982

Hon. Member of U.S. House of Rep.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

As Ripley County Collector Doniphan, Mo. and as A private citzen I strongley oppose HR 5686 Concerning use of the Irish Wilderness in adjoinging Oregon County, Mo. It seems in these times of economic distress we need to make use of all our resources to the best of our ability and not waste valuable timber and mineral resources.

It seems the present policy in effect by the U.S. Forrest service is much preferred to the alternative being offered.

Yours truly;

Joe Rush
Ripley Co. Collector

May 21, 1982

Charles Lee
Ripley Co. Assessor
Doniphan, Mo. 63935

Hon. Member of U.S. House of Rep.
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I feel it would be in our area's best interests to defeat HR 5686 Which pertains to the Irish Wilderness area in Oregon County, Mo.

This area lies along our western border and has been well managed by the U.S. Forrest Service. As a wise man has said, "If it ain't broke don't fix it."

Yours truly;

Charles Lee

Charles Lee
Ripley Co. Assessor

cl/js

RIPLEY COUNTY TREASURER

BOB HOEFER
Doniphan, Missouri 63935
Ph. (314) 996-4911

June 21, 1982

House Committee
H.R. 5686

RE: Irish Wilderness

I feel very strongly that the Irish Wilderness should be left under the supervision of the U. S. Forest Service.

We feel that it would be in the best interest to our area to defeat H.R.5686 which pertains to the Irish Wilderness area in Oregon County.

This area borders Ripley County on the west and is an important economic factor to our County.

Sincerely

Bob Hoefer

Bob Hoefer
Ripley County Treasurer

Office of County Clerk, Ripley County
Rufe Dalton
Doniphan, Missouri 63935

May 21, 1982

House Committee
H.R. 5686 RE: Irish Wilderness

I personally feel that the interests of our area, in which the Irish Wilderness is located, will best be served by leaving the Wilderness under the supervision of the Forest Service as it now is.

Therefore, as an individual, I am opposed to HR 5686.

Rufe Dalton

Rufe Dalton

Ripley County Clerk

The City of Thayer

SECOND AND MARKET STREETS
THAYER, MISSOURI 65791

A. D. PIERCE	Mayor
WM. R. HASS	City Attorney
EUGENE CRONEY	City Clerk
INA LOU HACKWORTH	Municipal Clerk
RUBY LOONEY	Collector
EARL D. ROGERS	Treasurer
KEITH JOHNSON	Municipal Judge
LAWRENCE LOWTHER	Chief of Police
DWIGHT ROBINSON	Fire Chief

ALDERMEN

PAT PAULSON	EARL D. ROGERS
RAY BEST	JOHN C. REEVES, JR.

May 18, 1982

U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Please be advised that I would like to go on record as being opposed to changing a part of the Irish Wilderness of Oregon County to wilderness status.

I definitely feel that this change would work against the best interest of the people that I represent, and to all of Oregon County. As you fully understand, the economy of this area is at a standstill and I feel this change would further the downward trend.

Sincerely,

A. D. Pierce
Mayor of the city of
Thayer, Mo.

ADP/ilh

LARRY SIMMONS, Clerk
HARDIN FRANKS
Presiding Judge
MRS. DOROTHY ELLIS
Associate Judge
IVAN TINSLEY
Associate Judge

OFFICE OF
Clerk of County Court
OREGON COUNTY
Alton, Missouri 65606

COURT MEETS
First Monday in February
First Monday in May
First Monday in August
First Monday in November

We, the elected officials of Oregon County, Missouri are opposed to the 17,500 acres of U. S. Forestlands (Irish Wilderness) being designated as a Wilderness Area.

We feel the multi purpose use of the area would be a boost to our economy.

Larry Simmons	County Clerk
Dwight Holmes	Collector
Gary Hensley	Assessor
Noel S. Johnson	Circuit Clerk & Recorder
Vera Hatman	Oregon Co. Health Dept
[illegible] Perkins	Prosecuting Attorney
Hardin Franks	Presiding Judge County Court
Irwin Henry	Thayer MO
Vail Robinson	Judge 2nd district
Roy Lee Caskey	Ass't Circuit Judge 1st Dist

J. Q. CLARY, MAYOR

CITY OF ALTON

BOX 247
COUNTY SEAT OF OREGON COUNTY
ALTON, MISSOURI

BILL PERKINS ... CITY ATTORNEY
ALDERMEN:
TOM YOUNG
CLEO TAYLOR

JAMES T. WARREN ... CITY CLERK
ALDERMEN:
BUD CONNER
JOHNNY COTTON

TO: House committee for a hearing on House Bill HR5686 Irsh Wilderness

I would like to go on record as opposing HR5686 that would declare 17,500 acres of the Irish Wilderness as a Wilderness Area.

The Irish Wilderness, as is, is a timber area, and very important to the economy of Oregon County.

If mineral is found in the Irish Wilderness it would be a big boost to our county and the nation. Being designated as a Wilderness Area would be a step in the wrong direction for the Irish Wilderness.

Sincerely,

John Q. Clary

John Q. Clary
Mayor

Marian Dalton
Circuit Clerk and Recorder
36th Judicial Circuit
Ripley County
Doniphan, Missouri 63935
AC314-996-2818

Hon. Rex A Henson
Presiding

June Watson
Deputy

May 21, 1982

TO HOUSE MEMBERS FOR HEARING ON
HOUSE BILL HR 5686 - IRISH WILDERNESS

I am an elected Official of Ripley County. My County borders Oregon County and The Irsh Wilderness on the West side .

I feel that it will serve the people of my County better if HR 5686 is defeated. To set aside 17,500 acres as a wilderness area will hinder the ecomony of Ripley and Oregon Counties.

Respectfully,

Marian Dalton

Marian Dalton
Circuit Clerk
and Recorder

County Court Of

SHANNON COUNTY

Eminence, Missouri 65466

REABER E. KEELING
Judge Northern District
Eminence, Missouri

J. D. HODGE
Presiding Judge
Eminence, Missouri

JERRY DAILEY
Judge Southern District
Winona, Missouri

REGULAR TERMS:
First Monday in February, May,
August, November

MAE RUTH MEADE
County Clerk

FERN JOHNSON
Deputy Clerk

House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20500

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to inform you, that we, the County Court of Shannon County, Missouri, are opposed to the Wilderness area in Oregon County, Missouri.
We feel that the State and Federal Government already owns and controls too much of our land.

Sincerely,

J D Hodge

J. D. Hodge, Presiding Judge
County Court
Shannon County
Eminence, Missouri 65466

Paul Faulkenberry, Mayor
Pamela Carter, City Clerk

City Of Eminence
Phone - 314-226-3717

P.O. Box 387
Eminence, Missouri 65466

May 21, 1982

House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20500

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I feel the wilderness area, as it is owned by the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture and we understand there policy is muliple use of the land, this area can be used for hiking, camping, ect. and can still be left as it is now.

Yes, I am opposed to a designated wilderness area in Oregon County, Missouri.

Sincerely,

Davis Roush
Davis Roush, Mayor
City of Eminence
Shannon County
Eminence, Missouri 65466

In The Heart Of The Ozark National Scenic Riverways

County Court Of

SHANNON COUNTY

Eminence, Missouri 65466

REABER E. KEELING
Judge Northern District
Eminence, Missouri

J. D. HODGE
Presiding Judge
Eminence, Missouri

JERRY DAILEY
Judge Southern District
Winona, Missouri

REGULAR TERMS:
First Monday in February, May,
August, November

MAE RUTH MEADE
County Clerk

FERN JOHNSON
Deputy Clerk

House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20500

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to inform you, that we, the County Court of Shannon County, Missouri, are opposed to the Wilderness area in Oregon County, Missouri.
We feel that the State and Federal Government already owns and controls too much of our land.

Sincerely,

J D Hodge

J. D. Hodge, Presiding Judge
County Court
Shannon County
Eminence, Missouri 65466

City Of Winona

BOX 426 WINONA, MISSOURI 65588 TELEPHONE 325-4410 AREA CODE 314

May 20, 1982

House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20500

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to inform you that I, Mayor of the City of Winona, Missouri, and Members of the Winona City Council are opposed to the Wilderness area in Oregon County, Missouri.

We, as a Governing Body, feel that the State Government and Federal Government has too much control over our land.

Sincerely,

Earnest Andrews

Earnest Andrews, Mayor
City of Winona, Missouri 65588

Howell County Court
WEST PLAINS, MISSOURI 65775
COURT DAYS: MONDAYS & THURSDAYS

RALPH PUCKETT
SOUTHERN JUDGE

ELMO EUDY
PRESIDING JUDGE

LEONARD DUDDRIDGE
NORTHERN JUDGE

May 21, 1982

House Of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Representatives:

Please be advised, the Howell County Court is voicing its opposition to the "Irish Wilderness Bill" H.B. 5686 which directly affects the adjoining county of Oregon and indirectly affects the surrounding areas economically.

We believe the basic thrust of the bill to let approximately 17,000 acres remain idle when potential economic benefits of mining and timber could be derived, is contrary to local needs.

Your consideration to our position will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Elmo Eudy

Elmo Eudy
Presiding Judge

LARRY SIMMONS, Clerk
HARDIN FRANKS
Presiding Judge
MRS. DOROTHY ELLIS
Associate Judge
IVAN TINSLEY
Associate Judge

OFFICE OF
Clerk of County Court
OREGON COUNTY
Alton, Missouri 65606

COURT MEETS
First Monday in February
First Monday in May
First Monday in August
First Monday in November

April 12 1982

Congressman Clay
Congressman Volkmer

I note that you two Congressmen have introduced an Irish Wilderness Bill HR5686. This I can not understand. Why would you introduce a bill for a District that does not concern you at all, and not in your District? 99% of Adult Citizens of Oregon County do not want it. I have a petition with some 1000 Names of Adult Citizens who state they do not want a Wilderness Area in Oregon County

This Land is now owned by U.S. Forest Service and They are doing a very fine job managing it now. When the Forest Service purchased the land back in the 1930's there wasn't a tree big enough to make a 2X4 Now it is a fine Forest. Why change that? To make the Irish into a Wilderness Area is Just Plain Stupid. Timber Work is the Livelihood of a lot of people in Oregon County

We people of Oregon County want the Irish left as it is now and we should have the say. We have offered to work with any one for the Eleven Point River and the Irish Wilderness but find people in St Louis dont give a tinker's damn about what we want. When you force the Wilderness on us you are starting a civil war. there will be Fires, Dynamite, Chain saws, Trouble etc, etc, etc? I'm sure

Also we're going to presume Congressman Wendell Bailey to Introduce an amendment to HR 5686 to include Forest Park in St Louis and [illegible] Park.

Hardin Franks

Alton, Mo. 65606
June 19, 1982

1982 JUN 21 PM 2: 11

Hon. Senator Malcom Wallop
Subcommittee on Public Lands & Reserve Waters
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sir:

I am Lewis A.W. Simpson a native of Oregon County. I am interested in H.R. 5686 which was introduced by Rep. Harold Volkmer and Rep. Clay of Missouri. I strongly support this bill. I have been a member of the Missouri House of Representatives, served three terms on the Oregon County Court, a member of the Oregon County Historical Society, and I have published the history of Oregon County and it is now in the second edition. The Irish is unique and it must remain in this status. And I underline MOST.

I have presented a copy to the Hon. John Sieberling and his committee of my Oregon County's Three Flags relating to our early history of Oregon County as testimony of H.R. 5686. I refer his and your committee to pages 31,32, and 33 relating to the history of the Irish Wilderness.

I have serious doubts there is paying amount of ore in the area to justify cost of mining same.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

L.A.W. Simpson (LD)
Lewis A.W. Simpson

LS/d

MRS. DOROTHY ELLIS
ROUTE ONE
THAYER, MO. 65971

June 18, 1982

Senator Malcom Wallop
Subcommittee on Public Lands & Reserve Waters
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wallop:

My name is Dorothy Ellis. I am a native of Oregon County. My people were the first settlers. I am extremely interested in H.B. 5080, which was introduced by Rep. Harold Volkmer and Rep. Bill Clay. I had hoped to be present in person to testify, but circumstances preventet it, but for the record I am in support of the wilderness system. Several years ago I was privileged to have spent several days in the Irish Wilderness with an Indian friend of mine, also a native. I was also with Life Magazine when they did an article on the Irish. The Irish is the best and the last of It's kind. When it is gone it will be gone forever. There's a certain Peacefullness and spiritual feeling inside this area. As has been said, we know that we are walking in this land on its own terms.

I am a county judge and have been on the court for 12 years,and naturally I am concerned about the financial affairs of the county, but this is already federal land, and it won't take land from the tax rolls and we receive our share of PILT.

If at some future time it is necessary to mine the Irish maybe we could consider it. We can always mine, but we can never replace the Irish Wilderness. Opinions here may not be unanimous now, but we are confident that if you do act favorably it will be a blessing for us in the long run. Again I support the bill and would like to see it received favorably.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Ellis